

Why boycott Mekorot?

stopmekorot.org/6-reasons-to-boycott-mekorot/



Why boycott Mekorot?

1. Mekorot practices **water apartheid**

depriving Palestinians of access to their own water.

Average Israeli daily water consumption is

4 times

that of Palestinians in the OPT.

1. Mekorot operates a system of water apartheid: Mekorot has been responsible for water rights violations and discrimination since the 1950s when it built Israel's national water carrier, which is diverting the Jordan River from the West Bank and Jordan to serve Israeli communities. At the same time it deprives the Palestinian communities from the possibility of access to water: Palestinian consumption in the OPT is about 70 litres a day per person – well below the 100 litres per capita daily recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO) – whereas Israeli daily per capita consumption, at about 300 litres, [is about four times as much](#).

Mekorot has [refused to supply water to Palestinian communities inside Israel](#), despite an Israeli high court ruling recognising their right to water. A French parliamentary report called these policies [water apartheid](#).



Why boycott Mekorot?

2. Mekorot supplies
illegal Israeli settlements.

The company has monopoly control over

all water sources

in the occupied
Palestinian territories.

2. Mekorot's vital support for the illegal settlement enterprise: Mekorot support for colonial settlement has continued since the 1967 occupation of the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan Heights. The company took [monopoly control over all water sources in the occupied territories](#), implementing policies that bolster Israeli settlements at the expense of Palestinian communities.

The United Nations [report of the independent international fact-finding mission](#) on the implications of the Israeli settlements on the rights of the Palestinian people as well as the [latest report on the settlements by the Secretary-General of the UN](#) denounce Mekorot's role in the settlement enterprise.

All cooperation with Mekorot inherently benefits from or contributes to the illegal settlement enterprise. Dutch public water company [Vitens states](#) that "Whether it comes to knowledge about extraction of water or to the benefits that can be achieved with smart grids, these cannot be separated from what the UN writes about the policy of Mekorot (*) towards the Palestinian territories and the settlements."



Why boycott Mekorot?

3. Mekorot participates in the pillage of natural resources.

And with the Israeli military, Mekorot takes part in

wanton destruction

of Palestinian water infrastructure.

3. Mekorot participates in the international crime of pillage of natural resources and wanton destruction of water infrastructure:

Mekorot operates some [42 wells in the West Bank](#), mainly in the Jordan Valley region, which mostly supply the Israeli settlements.

Mekorot works in close [partnership with the Israeli military](#), confiscating irrigation pipes from Palestinian farmers and destroying the water supply sources of Palestinian communities. In 2012 alone the Israeli army demolished 60 water and sanitation structures belonging to Palestinians.



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4. During summer months Mekorot's turns off the tap

leaving
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Mekorot's denial of the right to water is a tool for

displacing
Palestinians.

4. Mekorot denies Palestinians the human right to water as a tool for the Israeli policy of displacement:

In the summer Mekorot, escorted by the army, turns off the tap on Palestinian West Bank communities, leaving them to dry.

Mekorot is a [proud partner of the JNF's "Negev Blueprint" plan](#), which will see 40 000 Palestinian Bedouin citizens of Israel uprooted from their homes into reservations and their land used for Jewish-only settlement in the Negev.



Why boycott Mekorot?

5. Mekorot is working to
**export its
water apartheid.**

And turn a profit from
a fundamental right via
**water
privatization.**

5. Mekorot exports its water apartheid benefiting from water privatization:

Argentina's Public sector union ATE stated during its campaign that "if the tender is awarded to Mekorot water would rank as a luxury item and not as a vital resource that is a social right, and, secondly, human rights would be violated by giving the award to a company that supports the Palestinian genocide."



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6. Mekorot's diversion of the Jordan River has reduced the flow and turned it into a sewage pit.

It's time to expose the myth of making the desert bloom!

6. Mekorot's purported 'expertise' on water is plain 'bluwashing': the construction of water myths intended to bolster Israel's image abroad. Unlike what the company claims, Israel did not make the 'desert bloom'. The area of [historic Palestine is rich in water](#) and Palestinians have a centuries-old agriculture tradition. Israel exploited this myth to justify its misguided diversion of the Jordan River waters, [turning the historic river into a sewage pit](#), and to justify aggression against neighboring countries. The reality is that Israel is a water waster, its citizens consume water double the European average and its agriculture sector is ecologically unsustainable, with government subsidized farmers growing water thirsty crops.

Join the First International Week of Action Against Mekorot between 22 March 2014, World Water Day, and 30 March 2014, when Palestinians mark Land Day. Take a stand for water justice!