

## GENERAL SYNOD 2025

### RESOLUTION

**Resolution Number C012**

**Subject:** Arms Embargo on Israel

**Moved By:** Finn Keesmaat-Walsh

**Seconded By:** Charlotte Hardy

**Be it resolved that this General Synod:**

1. Request the Primate to publicly write to the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs calling on the Canadian government to uphold their moral responsibilities and impose full and immediate arms embargo on Israel.
2. Encourage all Canadian Anglicans to regularly write to and/or call their elected representatives asking them to work towards a full and immediate arms embargo on Israel.

**Source:** Youth Delegates

**Submitted By:** Finn Keesmaat-Walsh

Does this motion contain within it any financial implications?      Yes      **No**

If yes, has the General Synod Expenditures Committee considered the implications?      Yes      No

Does this motion contain within it any staffing implications?      Yes      **No**

### EXPLANATORY NOTE/BACKGROUND

Canadian companies export weapons, components, and military technology to Israel, including via the United States. These military exports, whether directly or by way of intermediaries, makes Canada complicit in Israel's grave human rights violations in Gaza and the West Bank.

Canada also buys and permits the import of military technology from Israel. It is Israel's sixth largest arms buyer. Gaza and the West Bank function as a laboratory for Israeli arms

manufacturers. The weapons deployed against Palestinians, including during Israel's wars on Gaza, are marketed to international customers like the Government of Canada as "battle-tested" and "combat-proven." Canadian tax-dollars pay for these Israeli-made weapons, providing profits to the Israeli arms industry and giving Israel moral cover for using those weapons against Palestinians.

While the Minister of Foreign Affairs has verbally committed to pausing approvals of future arms export permits to Israel, Canada must go further. It must cancel existing export permits, close all export loopholes, and implement an Arms Embargo under Canada's Special Economic Measures Act, which recognizes the necessity of a two-way prohibition.

The Government of Canada defines an arms embargo as a sanction that "aims to prevent weapons and military equipment from leaving or reaching a targeted country. It prohibits exporting and importing arms and related materials to and from the targeted country, and may also prohibit communicating technical data or financial transactions related to military activities."

([https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international\\_relations-relations\\_internationales/sanctions/types.aspx?lang=eng](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international_relations-relations_internationales/sanctions/types.aspx?lang=eng))

Under the Special Economic Measures Act, Canada can and should also ban the export to and import from Israel of surveillance, security, and intelligence technologies, as well as a broad range of dual use items (electronics, computers, sensors, lasers, avionics, etc.) that may not be considered strictly "military" in nature but are integral to Israel's siege and assault on Gaza and its continual annexation of the occupied Palestinian territories.

Israel's actions in Gaza have made clear that the time for vague promises and half-measures is long over. We call on the Canadian government to uphold its moral and legal responsibilities and impose a full and immediate arms embargo on Israel.

(With thanks to <https://armsembargonow.ca/> for compiling this information)

## **PROCEDURE FOR ADOPTION (G)**

*In the normal course, an ordinary motion must be passed by a majority of the members of General Synod present and voting together.*

*Six members of General Synod may, prior to the question being put, require a vote by Orders, with a majority of each Order being necessary to pass.*

*If a question passes on a Vote by Orders, any six members (two from each of three different dioceses) may immediately before the next item of business require a vote to be taken by dioceses. A motion passes if a majority (or a tie) of dioceses vote in favour.*

*Source: Sections 4 and 5 of the Declaration of Principles and sections 18, 19 and 20 of the Rules of Order and Procedure.*