**Short Title:** In accordance with international humanitarian law, human rights protocols, and the values of Northeastern University, should we ask the University Board of Trustees to divest any shares it may hold in Raytheon, Hewlett-Packard, Motorola and Caterpillar, which are complicit in human rights violations in the Occupied Palestinian Territories?

**Question Type:** Resolution of the Student Body

**Introductory Clauses:**

WHEREAS, the Northeastern University Mission Statement declares that “Our vision is to be a university that expands the meaning and impact of our engagement in the world using our knowledge and resources as positive forces for change in both our local communities and our global society” [1];

WHEREAS, “As a university where teaching and research are grounded in global engagement, Northeastern’s impact is being felt in all corners of the world” [2];

WHEREAS, Northeastern students have used and continue to use divestment [3] campaigns to reclaim political agency and to change Northeastern policies that maintain investments in companies that demonstrate a lack of accountability, ethicality, and respect for the rights and dignity of others [4], most notably in the context of South Africa apartheid [5] and Adidas [6] in violation of the human rights consortium to which Northeastern University is a signatory;

WHEREAS, investment in companies involved in violence against others is harmful to students at Northeastern University who are directly affected by such violence [4];

WHEREAS, international humanitarian law recognizes the rights of all people, including Israelis and Palestinians, to life, security [7] and self-determination [8];

WHEREAS, Caterpillar, Hewlett-Packard, Raytheon and Motorola Solutions have violated the universal right “to life, liberty, and security of person;” “to education;” “to privacy, family [and] home;” “to own property, and ...[not to] be arbitrarily deprived of property” [9];

WHEREAS, this resolution calls for targeted divestment from multinational corporations which are complicit in the violation of international humanitarian law in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, regardless of which countries contract said corporations;

WHEREAS, Caterpillar provides engineering tools and bulldozers routinely used in the demolition of Palestinian homes in the West Bank and Gaza, and Caterpillar’s products facilitate and profit from the expansion and construction of illegal, segregated and Jewish-only settlements in the West Bank [10];

WHEREAS, Hewlett-Packard provides biometric identification systems used at Israeli military checkpoints that can distinguish Palestinian faces from Israeli faces, therefore bolstering segregation by designing specific technology used in the racial profiling of Palestinians [11];

WHEREAS, Raytheon is a main supplier of weaponry to the United States and Israel, and many Raytheon missiles were used in Operation Protective Edge which resulted in the massacre of at least 1400 Palestinian civilians [12].
WHEREAS, Motorola Solutions profits from Israel’s control of the Palestinian population by providing surveillance systems around Israeli settlements, checkpoints, and military camps in the West Bank [13];

WHEREAS, the consequences of these companies’ actions also affect the Northeastern University community directly, including students whose families experience occupation, systematic discrimination, death, injury, and other forms of human rights violations [14];

WHEREAS, the only way to achieve financial neutrality in such situations is to end our investment in and implicit support for such companies through divestment [14];

WHEREAS, support for human rights and opposition to investments in companies engaged in violence are principles that can unite the members of the Northeastern community through the common pursuit of universally relatable principles for which our University stands; have the power to unite members of the Northeastern community [14];

**Operative Clauses:**

**THEREFORE, BE IT**

RESOLVED, that we, the students, call upon our university to dissociate itself from companies that engage or aid in systematic prejudiced oppression, whether this system targets people based on their religion, nationality, gender, race or orientation.

RESOLVED, that in accordance with international humanitarian law, human rights protocols, and the values of the Northeastern community, We call upon the Northeastern trustees to divest from companies that participate in or profit from what the United Nations [16], Amnesty International [17, 18], and the Human Rights Watch [19, 20, 21] have determined are human rights violations in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, We therefore call upon Northeastern to withdraw any and all investments that it may hold in Caterpillar, Raytheon, Motorola, and Hewlett-Packard.