

## Microsoft Company Complicity Profile



Microsoft's complicity in Israel's apartheid and genocide is well documented through its strong ties to the Israeli military, its collaboration with Israeli government ministries, and its involvement in the Israeli prison system, which is notorious for systematic torture and abuse of Palestinians. Microsoft knowingly provides Israel with technology including artificial intelligence (AI) that is deployed to facilitate grave human rights violations, war crimes, crimes against humanity (including [apartheid](#)), as well as [genocide](#).

### **Microsoft is a Long-Standing Partner of the Israeli Occupation Forces**

**In 2002, Microsoft participated in the largest software deal in Israel at the time.** The [\\$35 million](#) contract provided the Israeli military and government with [“unlimited products”](#) and committed to [“broadly exchange ‘knowledge’ with the army.”](#) Microsoft has since expanded its partnerships with the Israeli apartheid regime.

### **Military Partnerships**

- **Microsoft provides the Israeli military with [Azure cloud, AI, and storage services](#)**, which are crucial in automating Israel's atrocity crimes in Gaza. The Israeli military uses AI and cloud technologies, including from [“civilian clouds”](#) like Azure, to construct a [“weapons platform”](#) and a [“mass assassination factory”](#) that automate and accelerate Israel's crimes through systems such as the [Gospel](#), [Lavender](#), and [Where's Daddy](#).
- The Israeli military's reliance on Microsoft's Azure cloud technology and AI services has [surged](#) during its genocide of Palestinians in Gaza. According to [usage data](#) from March 2024, the Israeli military's usage of Microsoft and OpenAI artificial intelligence [spiked](#) nearly 200 times higher than pre-October 2023.
  - By the end of March 2024, the Israeli military's monthly consumption of Azure's suite of machine learning tools was [64 times higher](#) than in September 2023.
  - The Israeli military's average monthly consumption of Azure storage services in the first six months of the genocide was [60% higher](#) than in the four months leading up to the war. By July 2024, the amount of data the Israeli military stored on Microsoft servers doubled to more than 13.6 petabytes (13,600,000 gigabytes).
- In 2021, Microsoft [signed](#) a three-year contract with the Israeli Ministry of Defense worth \$133 million. The Israeli military is Microsoft's second largest military customer globally after the U.S. military. According to internal Microsoft classification, the Israeli military is [classified](#) as an “S500” client, meaning that it gets top priority status as one of the company's most important customers globally.
- **Microsoft has a [“footprint in all major military infrastructures”](#) in Israel.** The Israeli military's service agreements with Microsoft [include](#) more than 635 individual subscriptions listed under specific divisions, units, bases or project code words such as:
  - **Mamram**— the military's central computing unit responsible for the military's tech infrastructure
  - **Unit 8200 and Unit 81**— military intelligence units that develop spy technology for Israel's intelligence community and are implicated in crimes against Palestinians, [Lebanese](#) and others
  - **Highly classified unit inside the Israeli Prime Minister's Office** where Microsoft employees

- with security clearance are required to sign off and oversee the provision of cloud services
  - **Army units that maintain the “Rolling Stone” system**– used by the army to manage the population registry and movement of Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza
  - **Air Force’s Ofek Unit**, which is responsible for managing large databases of potential targets for lethal airstrikes (known as the “target bank”)
  - **Matspen Unit**– responsible for the development of operational and combat support systems
  - **the Sapir Unit**– maintains the ICT infrastructure in the Military Intelligence Directorate
  - **Military Advocate General’s Corps**– tasked with prosecuting Palestinians and lawbreaking Israeli soldiers in the occupied territories
- **Microsoft [embeds](#) its workers in Israeli military units to work on sensitive and highly classified projects** such as [“a surveillance system used to monitor Palestinians”](#) where they [work closely](#) with the Israeli military’s intelligence directorate, including its elite surveillance division, Unit 8200. Within Israel, a Microsoft team is [dedicated](#) to serving the Israeli military’s account. The team includes a senior executive who served 14 years in Unit 8200 and a former IT leader for military intelligence.
- **Microsoft’s staff and contractors [provide](#) specialized consulting and technical support both remotely and on military bases.** Microsoft engineers provided support to Israeli military intelligence units such as Unit 8200 and Unit 9900 – which collects and analyses visual intelligence – to support their use of cloud infrastructure. Between October 2023 and June 2024 alone, the Israeli military [spent](#) \$10 million to purchase 19,000 hours of engineering support from Microsoft.
- **Microsoft works in collaboration with the Israeli military’s Center of Computing and Information Systems (known by its acronym Mamram).** The unit is responsible for the IOF’s computing software and is [essential](#) for every modern function played by the Israeli military.
  - As highlighted by Mamram officials, [“It is the cloud platforms that the Mamram Unit creates that enable weapons in the field or command headquarters or autonomous military systems, which are growing, to operate.”](#) In November 2024, [Microsoft sponsored the “I Love Mamram” conference](#) in Israel to celebrate the unit and sent representatives of the company to lead workshops during the conference.
- In April 2024, Microsoft Israel [hosted](#) a group from the "Combatants to Hi-Tech" program, held in collaboration with the Israeli Ministry of Defense and the Israeli army, for a TypeScript workshop developed in Microsoft, a lecture and a tour given by the company's employees. The "Combatants to Hi-Tech" program is a prestigious program designed to integrate combat fighters into the high-tech industry using their combat experience.
- **[Microsoft Azure currently hosts the IOF Reservists portal](#)** which has received a six-fold increase in visits since the start of the genocide and serves as the key website for reservists to sign up, process documents, view payslips, etc.
- **Microsoft Azure hosts software used for training of Israeli Occupation Forces.** Elbit Systems is one of Israel's largest military contractors providing military technology. In 2022, Elbit Systems announced that their new military simulation software, OneSim, [would run on Microsoft Azure](#). As part of a \$107 million contract, OneSim is used in advanced IDF training centers to mimic real-life “battle scenarios” for tank crews, thereby enabling IDF's ongoing occupation.
- **[Microsoft provides cloud infrastructure to Palantir](#), a company dubbed [“the AI arms dealer of the 21st Century.”](#) The IOF uses Palantir's AI targeting platform powered by massive troves of data**

collected on Palestinians and hosted in part on Microsoft servers. Palantir's CEO Alex Karp openly [admits](#) that the product is "used on occasion to kill people."

## Government Partnerships

- **[The "AI Munaseq" app, hosted on Microsoft Azure](#) and developed by the Israeli Ministry of Defense**, is used by the Israeli "Civil Administration" to manage apartheid permits for Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza. The Israeli military uses the app to [collect surveillance data](#) such as personal data, notifications received, files downloaded, and the device's camera and makes use of the information collected for any purpose, as cited in app's End-User-License Agreement (EULA).
- **[Microsoft partners directly with Mekorot, the Israeli national water company](#)**, which holds the authority over the water resources in the West Bank and East Jerusalem. Mekorot was cited in the International Court of Justice's [July 19 2024 Advisory Opinion](#) under "Exploitation of natural resources" which reported that [Israel prioritizes the water supply of illegal settlements](#) which causes Palestinians to suffer from lengthy and frequent water outages.

## Police and Prison Partnerships

- **[Microsoft Israel has been repeatedly contracted by the Israeli Police](#)**, often with exemptions from tender, to provide various software, cloud, and licensing services totaling millions of USD. As recently as January 2024, Microsoft Israel was contracted by the Israel Police as sole supplier to provide Microsoft Premier expert services and maintenance until the end of December 2026 for \$970,000 USD.
- **Microsoft has provided [Microsoft Cloud Services \(MCS\) to the Israeli Prison Service \(IPS\)](#) since at least 2017**. As recently as April 2024, Microsoft Israel was contracted by the IPS as sole supplier to provide Premier support services until April 2027 for \$720,000 USD.

## Microsoft has Illegal Operations on Illegally Occupied Land, including in Settlements

- Microsoft services and collaborates with Ariel University, located in the [illegal settlement](#) of Ariel in the West Bank, providing [free software services](#), Microsoft Certified Solutions Associate courses to students, and sponsoring the [Ariel University hackathon](#). Settlements are [war crimes](#) under international law.
- **It provides financial [support](#) to organizations based in Israeli colonial [settlements](#) in the illegally occupied Palestinian West Bank**, including at least one that fundraises to support the Israeli military, in its employee charitable giving platform. The organizations are the Ma'aleh Adumim Foundation, Friends of the Israeli Defense Forces, and the Megillot Dead Sea Rescue Team.

## Microsoft funding of Israeli Startups

- **Since 2014, Microsoft has invested millions of dollars into Israeli startups [specializing in war technology](#)**. In 2020, Microsoft faced [internal](#) and [external pressure](#) from employees and human rights groups for its investments in AnyVision, an Israeli company that makes surveillance technology that is used to surveil Palestinians in the illegally occupied West Bank, [violating Microsoft's ethical standards for facial recognition technology](#) as well as violating international law. This pressure successfully forced M12, Microsoft's venture capital fund, to [pull out of the \\$74 million investment](#). However, Microsoft continues to invest in other start-ups that violate the company's ethical standards.