


From: Mike Schmeiske <schmeiske@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 17, 2024 12:15 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Objection, Seek Divestment from Elbit Systems

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,

Please immediately divest the Public Employee Retirement Fund from the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems. As an Oregon PERS contributor and State of Oregon employee, I object to my contribution being used to support Israeli war crimes against the Palestinian people. In the last two months, Israel's bombardment of Gaza has killed nearly 15,000 civilians, including more than 6,000 children, using munitions and other weapons of war made by Elbit. The Oregon Treasury's investment in Elbit makes Oregonians complicit in the crime of collective punishment, which is forbidden by the Geneva Conventions. We will not be complicit, and we will not be silent. Divest Now!

Sincerely,

Mike Schmeiske

[REDACTED]

From: Mike Beilstein <mikebeilstein@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 17, 2024 11:52 AM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: End Investment with Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,

Please immediately divest the Public Employee Retirement Fund from the Israeli military contractor **Elbit Systems**. As an Oregon taxpayer and PERS recipient, I object to my taxes and pension being used to support Israeli war crimes against the Palestinian people. In the last two months, Israel's bombardment of Gaza has killed more than 20,000 civilians, including more than 9,000 children, using munitions and other weapons of war made by **Elbit**. The Oregon Treasury's investment in **Elbit** makes Oregonians complicit in the crime of collective punishment, which is forbidden by the Geneva Conventions. We will not be complicit, and we will not be silent. Divest Now!

I am encouraging others Oregonians and PERS retirees to communicate the same message. You need to start listening to the Oregonians that you are supposed to represent and serve.

Mike Beilstein
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Laura Hanks <laura.hanks7@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 17, 2024 11:48 AM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,

Please immediately divest the Public Employee Retirement Fund from the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems. As an Oregon [taxpayer/PERS recipient], I object to my pension being used to support Israeli war crimes against the Palestinian people. In the last two months, Israel's bombardment of Gaza has killed nearly 15,000 civilians, including more than 6,000 children, using munitions and other weapons of war made by Elbit. The Oregon Treasury's investment in Elbit makes Oregonians complicit in the crime of collective punishment, which is forbidden by the Geneva Conventions. We will not be complicit, and we will not be silent. Divest Now!

Sincerely,
Laura Hanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Janet Miltenberger <janetm971@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 17, 2024 11:44 AM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Investment in Elbit Systems

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,

I am a PERS recipient and was shocked to learn that PERS is invested in the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems. I object to my pension fund being used to support Israel's disproportionate retaliation which has been against the Palestinian people as a whole rather than against Hamas specifically. Far too many civilians, including thousands of children, have been killed, maimed and displaced using munitions and other weapons of war made by Elbit. The Oregon Treasury's investment in Elbit makes Oregonians complicit in the crime of collective punishment, which is forbidden by the Geneva Conventions. I do not wish to be complicit in this, and I firmly believe that most Oregonians would object if they knew about this. I ask that this investment be sold quickly.

Janet Miltenberger

[REDACTED]

From: George Hutchinson <geothegreen47@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 17, 2024 11:38 AM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Divestment of assets in Elbit Systems

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Due to the continued user of Elbit Systems munitions in the slaughter in Gaza, it is time to divest from all Elbit Systems holdings.

George Hutchinson
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: amalieweil@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Amalie Weil
<amalieweil@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 14, 2024 8:23 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Amalie Weil

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Kristin Edmark <kristinedmark@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 14, 2024 2:48 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Please accept my comment to the OIC for the meeting on January 24, 2024

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Public Comment to OIC January 24th 2024 submitted by Kristin Edmark

Please remove fossil fuel investments from Oregon investments.

Returns on Oregon's Public University Fund without fossil fuel investments have been the same or better over a 1 year and 3-year period. A recent analysis of returns states that "the PUF without fossil fuel investments matched or exceeded its benchmark and the OITF the majority of the time." Read on Divest Oregon website.

This study corroborates the findings of a multitude of studies. (Examples include 2019 CALSTRS study by Corporate knights, 2021 Blackrock study for New York, 2021 Ortec Climate Finance Maps, 2021 Maryland SRPS, 2023 University of Waterloo.)

A recent CNN/SSRS poll shows that climate is important to citizens.

<https://www.cnn.com/2023/12/08/politics/cnn-poll-climate-change/index.html>

The polls show that 73% of Americans support policies to cut greenhouse gas emissions in half this decade. This includes 95% of Democrats. 79% of people say that climate change is causing extreme weather in their communities. I think these numbers are even higher in Oregon. People want action on climate. Continuing to fund new fossil fuel extraction and new fossil fuel infrastructure is counter to what citizens want.

Please remember that investments in fossil fuel funders also prolongs fossil fuel use.

A slow transition to clean energy will cause tipping points to be passed which cannot be recovered and will make more permanent chaotic climate extremes, crop difficulties, increased climate refugees, political instability, GNP/economic losses, ecosystem breakdowns, etc.

Just dropping investments in fossil fuel producers is not enough. The private equity companies identified by Private Equity Stakeholder Project as investing the most in fossil fuels are: Blackstone, Carlyle, KKR, Arclight, Apollo, Ares Management, Global Infrastructure Partners, Oaktree Capital, Warburg Pincus, Riverstone Holdings, Encap.

6/30/2021, OPERS had \$5,267,441,164 invested with these 12 worst private equity companies.

The Banks identified as funding the most fossil fuel projects as of 2021 are JP Morgan, Citi, Wells Fargo, Bank of America, RBC, MUFG, Barclays, Mizuho, TD Toronto Dominion, BNP Paribas, Scotiabank, Morgan Stanley. [Dirty Dozen Banks](https://reclaimfinance.org/site/en/2021/03/24/baking-climate-chaos-fossil-fuel-finance-report-2021) <https://reclaimfinance.org/site/en/2021/03/24/baking-climate-chaos-fossil-fuel-finance-report-2021>

6/30/2021 Oregon had \$3,656,279,057 invested with the 12 banks identified as having funded the most new fossil fuel projects in 2020.

—
Please drop investments in fossil fuels and fossil fuel funders. We want fossil free pensions.

[REDACTED]

From: nickolaioakley11@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Nickolai Oakley
<nickolaioakley11@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 11, 2024 2:34 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As an Oregon taxpayer and beneficiary in the public employee retirement system, I am writing to express my strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Mx. Nickolai Oakley

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: madelamber306@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Madeline Widman
<madelamber306@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, January 8, 2024 12:17 AM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Miss Madeline Widman
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: LostOnFosterr@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lezley Thompson
<LostOnFosterr@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2024 2:18 AM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Ms. Lezley Thompson

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: darin3941@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Darin Aguilar <darin3941@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 2, 2024 1:28 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Mr. Darin Aguilar

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: inkworker@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Sarah Alibabaie
<inkworker@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 31, 2023 11:01 AM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

This sort of investment is a mismanagement of public benefit and goals. We pay taxes so that we benefit ourselves, and others across the state, nation, and world—not so that we are complicit in killing others. Do you think that the trauma of students in schools, whether citizens or refugees, arose in a vacuum, for example? It is wrong to cause a problem on the one hand, by funding violence, and then underfund or under-address the real issues that are in our community because of past government decisions. It's wrong and it makes no sense.

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Ms. Sarah Alibabaie

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: ANDRETTI Chris * DOC <Chris.ANDRETTI@doc.oregon.gov>
Sent: Thursday, December 28, 2023 7:57 AM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: concerns

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Hello

I would like to know what we lost such a significant amount of our IAP in 2023 considering the stock market performed fairly well. 2022 was devastating for our Oregon savings growth account and now our IAP took a hit. I believe the council should be obligated to send an explanation to members for years with such significant losses and give us an option to manage our IAP money like we can our Savings growth account. It seems like there is no accountability for your part.

Thanks

Christine Andretti CADC II, QMHA I, CRM, PSS
Correctional Services Division | Intake & Assessments
Oregon Department of Corrections

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

From: draymusa@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Aisha Musa
<draymusa@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 26, 2023 12:00 AM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Dr. Aisha Musa

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: neekole7@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Nicole Francisco <neekole7@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, December 23, 2023 5:45 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Dr. Nicole Francisco

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Katy Bayless <madisonw@q.com>
Sent: Saturday, December 23, 2023 7:28 AM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Funds being sent to Israel

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Please take all funds that are being sent to Israel out of the investment portfolio. Israel is committing genocide against the Palestinian people. 20,000 dead and many children and many children left without parents or siblings.

Enough is enough - the Palestinians have been living under an apartheid situation since Israel was formed.

Please help get this to stop by taking all funds that you have invested in Israel out of the investment

Thank you for your attention to this terrible situation that must stop

Katy Bayless
Oregon Citizen

[REDACTED]

From: kwilbrec@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Karen Wilbrecht
<kwilbrec@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, December 23, 2023 12:00 AM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

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Sincerely,
Ms. Karen Wilbrecht

[REDACTED]
kwilbrec@gmail.com

[REDACTED]

From: brooklyn.wehr@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Brooklyn Wehr
<brooklyn.wehr@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 21, 2023 10:56 AM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

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Sincerely,
Mx. Brooklyn Wehr

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: myrahrafiah@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Myrah Beverly
<myrahrafiah@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 20, 2023 9:15 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

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A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Miss Myrah Beverly

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: maribelmora0288@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Maribel Mora
<maribelmora0288@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 20, 2023 12:01 AM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Maribel Mora

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: downsuki@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Rosa Will
<downsuki@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2023 10:42 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

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A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Ms. Rosa Will

[REDACTED]
downsuki@gmail.com

[REDACTED]

From: sophiebybee@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Sophie Bybee
<sophiebybee@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, December 18, 2023 7:14 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

I am an Oregon taxpayer, union member and beneficiary in the public employee retirement system. I am writing to express my strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveil and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

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2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Ms. Sophie Bybee

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: tmmmyoder@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Tori Yoder
<tmmmyoder@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, December 18, 2023 12:34 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

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A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: james egan <musicstar7@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, December 18, 2023 12:14 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: THE GREAT TAKING HOW INVESTMENTS WILL VANISH

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

THIS INTERVIEW IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT VIDEOS TO WATCH IN THE WORLD. HIDDEN AND SECRET INFO.
WHERE ALL MONEY AND INVESTMENTS CAN VANISH OVER NIGHT. WATCH AT THEGREATTAKING.COM

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: Aüi Jacobo <ae.jacobo27@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, December 18, 2023 10:20 AM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Divest PERS from Elbit

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,

Please immediately divest the Public Employee Retirement Fund from the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems. As an Oregon taxpayer and PERS recipient, I object to my taxes and pension being used to support Israeli war crimes against the Palestinian people. In the last two months, Israel's bombardment of Gaza has killed nearly 15,000 civilians, including more than 6,000 children, using munitions and other weapons of war made by Elbit. The Oregon Treasury's investment in Elbit makes Oregonians complicit in the crime of collective punishment, which is forbidden by the Geneva Conventions. We will not be complicit, and we will not be silent. Divest Now!

If you would like to supplement your message with other details, here are more talking points:

From the American Friends Service Committee:

Elbit Systems Ltd, headquartered in Israel, designs, manufactures, and sells munitions, combat vehicles, drones, electronic warfare systems, cybersecurity technologies, and other weapons and surveillance systems.

Elbit supplies the Israeli military with a wide variety of weapons, including missiles, bombs, drones, gun systems, and ammunition. Elbit technologies, including Torch-X command and control, electronic warfare (EW), display, and warning systems, are also integrated into the Israeli military's main fighter aircraft, battle tanks, and warships.

For years, these weapons have routinely been used against Palestinian civilians, resulting in numerous casualties as well as mass destruction of homes and civilian infrastructure, including hospitals, schools, and water and electric systems. These attacks include war crimes that Israel has committed during several major military offensives against the Gaza Strip, which has been illegally blockaded since 2007:

2022 ("Operation Breaking Dawn"): Within three days of this unprovoked offensive, Israel killed at least 33 Palestinians, including 17 civilians. Evidence of war crimes was recorded by Amnesty International.

2021 ("Operation Guardian of the Walls"): During this assault, Israel killed at least 261 Palestinians, including 67 children and 41 women. At least half of the fatalities were civilians, and more than 2,200 additional Palestinians were injured. Evidence of war crimes and possible crimes against humanity was published by Palestinian human rights organizations Al-Haz, Al-Mezan, and the Palestinian Center of Human Rights; Amnesty International; and Human Rights Watch.

2014 ("Operation Protective Edge"): During this 50-day assault, Israel killed at least 2,131 Palestinians, at least 1,473 of whom were civilians, including 501 children and 257 women. At least 11,100 Palestinians were wounded, including 3,374 children. Evidence of war crimes was published by Palestinian human rights organizations Al-Haq and Al-Mezan; Israeli organization B'Tselem; Amnesty International; and Human Rights Watch.

Border Monitoring and Surveillance in the US and Abroad:

Elbit has also provided its surveillance technologies—"field-proven" on Palestinians and installed along Israel's border walls—to U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) since 2006. The company provides U.S. immigration authorities with fixed and mobile/relocatable surveillance systems, ground sensors, drones, Border Patrol command and control

platforms, and other technologies. Elbit has become one of 14 "giants in the [U.S.] border security business" in its bid to "build a 'layer' of electronic surveillance equipment across the entire perimeter of the U.S.," expanding "not only to the northern border [the U.S.–Canadian border], but to the ports and harbors across the country."

In 2006, Elbit acted as a Boeing subcontractor on CBP's Secure Border Initiative Network (SBInet) project, which attempted to create a "virtual wall" along the entire U.S.–Mexico border. As part of the project, Elbit provided Integrated Fixed Towers (IFTs) for deployment along stretches of the border in Arizona. IFTs are 160-foot surveillance towers outfitted with high-definition cameras, sensors, and advanced radars capable of detecting individuals and vehicles up to 7.5 miles away. Providing "constant 24/7 surveillance" along portions of the border, these surveillance towers send real-time data to Border Patrol agents at an Elbit-powered Torch command and control station".

Please divest from Elbit, human rights and lives continue to be at stake.

December is Universal Human Rights Month, now is the chance to take a stance against genocide.

- Andrea "Aüi" Jacobo

[REDACTED]

From: shelley4peace@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Shelley Hartling
<shelley4peace@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, December 18, 2023 6:02 AM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Ms Shelley Hartling

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: ajp458@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Andrea Pirolo <ajp458@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, December 18, 2023 12:01 AM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

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Sincerely,
Ms. Andrea Pirolo

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Silje Harlander <silje.chr@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2023 10:22 AM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Divest Public Retirement Funds from Israel's Largest Military Contractor

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,

Please divest the Public Employee Retirement Fund from the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems. As an Oregon taxpayer, I object to my taxes being used to support Israeli war crimes against the Palestinian people. In the last two months, Israel's bombardment of Gaza has killed nearly 15,000 civilians, including 7,000 children, using munitions and other weapons of war made by Elbit. The Oregon Treasury's investment in Elbit makes Oregonians complicit in the crime of collective punishment, which is forbidden by the Geneva Convention. We will not be complicit, and we will not be silent. Divest now!

Sincerely,
Silje Harlander

PRIVATE EQUITY STAKEHOLDER PROJECT

January 24, 2024

Madam chair and board, my name is Abhilasha Bhola with the Private Equity Stakeholder Project. I'm here today to talk about OIC's private market investments with portfolio companies that drive the climate crisis, and to propose avenues for meaningful progress. As OIC considers a decarbonization plan, we urge the board to ensure that the OIC reduces risk associated with harmful private equity funded fossil fuel assets such as the Gavin Coal Plant in Ohio.

OIC is invested in the Gavin Coal Plant via a [\\$500 million commitment](#) to Blackstone Capital Partners VII. The Gavin Coal plant is the **ninth largest source of carbon dioxide emissions in the United States**.¹ [Modeling by the Sierra Club](#) estimated that Gavin causes **244 premature deaths per year** from particulate emissions that increase the rate of heart attacks, asthma attacks, and other cardiovascular disease.

Not only do investments like the Gavin Coal Plant produce significant harms to local communities and our planet, but Coal power plants represent a financial risk for pensions like OIC as domestic demand for coal power has shrunk. [Analysts at IEEFA](#) found that coal's market share of domestic power production has not reached 20% in 2023 and demand for coal power in 2024 will likely continue to drop. If demand for coal continues to decline, investment in such facilities exposes OIC to risk.

Gavin Coal Plant may also face mounting financial costs. In November 2022, the [US EPA issued a final decision](#) denying Gavin's request to extend the deadline for complying with regulations for coal ash storage. While the [owners of the Gavin Coal Plant have sued the EPA](#) challenging this decision, according to [research conducted by Earth Justice](#) there are approximately 59,300,000 cubic yards of coal ash and water at the Gavin Coal Plant coal ash ponds. Additionally, under the EPA's Good Neighbor Plan, Gavin may need to spend up to an estimated \$50 million per year to keep operating its facilities during the summer due to the volume of its contribution to ozone pollution across the Eastern seaboard.²

Costs are mounting for Gavin while domestic demand for coal power has declined. The Gavin coal plant poses a financial and environmental risk for both pension boards and the climate. Therefore, we urge OIC to heed calls from environmental advocates and join us in urging Blackstone to retire the Gavin coal plant.

Thank you,
Abhilasha Bhola
Private Equity Stakeholder Project

¹ Based on 2022 data provided in the [Clean Air Markets Program Database](#).

² Estimate by Sierra Club based on EPA's [Unit-Level Allocations](#) (difference between 2021 actual and 2024 allocation) and an estimated price of \$50,000 per ton for NOx credits.

[REDACTED]

From: andrew.fuller@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Andrew Fuller
<andrew.fuller@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2023 11:02 AM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

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2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Mr. Andrew Fuller

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: evlyn.ester@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Evlyn Ester
<evlyn.ester@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2023 1:20 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveil and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

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Sincerely,
Miss Evlyn Ester

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Ala Crity <alacrity0819@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2023 1:33 AM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Elbit Systems

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

The people who spoke to your council do not represent the majority of Oregon. If you put out a survey asking if we want you to divest public pension fund money from Elbit Systems, most would say do not divest.

Thanks

B

[REDACTED]

From: amalieweil@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Amalie Weil
<amalieweil@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2023 9:37 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

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Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: ehaverland@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Elise Haverland
<ehaverland@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2023 8:52 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

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Sincerely,
Miss Elise Haverland

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: tommywmcnamara@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Tommy Mcnamara
<tommywmcnamara@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2023 8:51 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

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Sincerely,
Mr. Tommy Mcnamara

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: carjtaylor@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Caroline Taylor
<carjtaylor@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2023 7:55 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

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2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Miss Caroline Taylor

[REDACTED]

From: CURTIS (Dick) SMITH <dickandmarydeane@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2023 3:01 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Cc: Brian Smith
Subject: Request to divest from Elbit Systems

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

December 12, 2023

Dear Members of the Oregon Investment Council,

As a member of the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) in Oregon, I am writing to express my deep concern and to urge the immediate divestment of the Public Employee Retirement Fund from Elbit Systems, an Israeli military contractor.

The involvement of my pension contributions in supporting Elbit Systems is profoundly troubling. Recent military actions in Gaza, where munitions and weapons manufactured by Elbit Systems were reportedly used, resulted in the tragic loss of nearly 15,000 civilian lives, including over 6,000 children. This association places us, as members of the Oregon PERS, in a position of indirect complicity with actions that go against the principles of the Geneva Conventions.

Our investments should reflect our commitment to human rights and international law. The continued financial engagement with Elbit Systems undermines these values and our state's ethical standards.

Therefore, I strongly urge the Council to consider the moral implications of this investment and to divest from Elbit Systems. Our stance on such issues should be clear – we must not be silent or complicit in matters that fundamentally contradict our values of human dignity and respect for international humanitarian laws.

Thank you for addressing this critical issue.

Sincerely,

Curtis Smith, Ed. D.

>

[REDACTED]

From: viemondaine@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Kristin Knight
<viemondaine@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2023 8:56 AM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Sent:
To:
Subject:

[REDACTED]everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Cameron Wolfe
<1800jellyfish@everyactioncustom.com>
Monday, December 11, 2023 4:57 PM
OIC Public Comments
Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Ms. Cameron Wolfe

1 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: ryanmael@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Etan Ryan
<ryanmael@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2023 1:47 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Sgt Etan Ryan
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: maro.rose@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Maro Sevastopoulos
<maro.rose@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2023 1:36 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As a Jew and a union member/staff, I am outraged by my tax dollars going to fund genocide.

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Ms. Maro Sevastopoulos

[REDACTED]

OIC Public Comment
January 24, 2024

Good afternoon madam chair and board, the undersigned organizations and individuals have come together to present comments regarding OIC's investment in the proposed Rio Grande Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) terminal via its fund commitment to private equity firm Global Infrastructure Partners (GIP).

Last year, OIC invested [\\$350 million into Global Infrastructure Partners' Fund V](#). [Global Infrastructure Partners Fund V](#) is an investor in the proposed [Rio Grande LNG](#) through Global Infrastructure Partner's \$3.5 billion investment, making the firm the largest investor with a [minimum 46% ownership stake](#) in the project. This comes after French bank Société Générale [pulled](#) support for the project in 2022. GIP's Rio Grande LNG project is among several proposed LNG terminals that have been "repeatedly delayed due to rising construction, labor and borrowing costs" and volatile gas prices, [according to Reuters](#).

There has been significant community and legal opposition to this project for the last eight years. If built, the Rio Grande LNG terminal is estimated to emit the equivalent [emissions of 44 coal power plants every year](#), about 163 million tons of carbon dioxide equivalent.

The [Rio Grande LNG terminal would be built on](#) the sacred land of the Carrizo Comecrudo Tribe of Texas. Additionally, [the facilities would significantly degrade](#) local fishing, shrimping and natural tourism industries putting communities' livelihoods at risk.

LNGs is often lauded as a cleaner alternative to coal or other fossil fuels, but according to a [study recently submitted to a](#) peer-reviewed journal by a professor at Cornell University, LNG fuels may in fact be worse for the environment and emit more greenhouse gasses than coal due to leakage during the transportation process.

Due to these risks, communities across South Texas have opposed Rio Grande LNG. The city of [Port Isabel filed a lawsuit](#) against the Federal Energy Regulatory Agency (FERC), alleging the agency had not conducted a sufficient environmental review. The [Laguna Vista Town Council](#), [the South Padre Island City Council](#), and Long Island Village unanimously adopted resolutions opposing the Rio Grande LNG terminal. The Point Isabel School District that represents these communities [rejected a tax abatement offer](#) from Rio Grande LNG. Communities across South Texas are building momentum in their fight against the Rio Grande LNG terminal and will only continue to fight.

LNG may not be in alignment with the 1.5 degree warming targets of the Paris Agreement and thus poses a financial risk to institutional investors such as the OIC. Recent [studies](#) expect global equity returns to decline by 50% by 2060 if financial funds do not align with Paris Agreement goals.

Future global demand for LNG is also highly uncertain. The IEA forecast that demand for gas, oil and coal will all peak before 2030, and has noted that demand for gas growth has slowed

considerably, leading to concerns about a “[glut of LNG](#).” Sinking millions of dollars into massive gas infrastructure exposes OIC to [financial and environmental risks](#).

To address the financial, social, and ecological risks of the Rio Grande LNG terminal, we urge the OIC to join our calls to halt the construction of the Rio Grande LNG terminal in Brownsville Texas.

Thank you,

Abhilasha Bhola, Private Equity Stakeholder Project

Christopher Basaldú, PhD, South Texas Environmental Justice Network

Juan Mancias, Tribal Chairman of the Carrizo/Comecrudo Tribe of Texas

Nichole Heil, Private Equity Stakeholder Project

Patricia Rubio, Another Gulf Is Possible Collaborative

Rebekah Hinojosa, South Texas Environmental Justice Network

[REDACTED]

From: getlowe81@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Michael Lowe <getlowe81@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2023 12:20 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Mr. Michael Lowe

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: karmay@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Kara Maymi
<karmay@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2023 10:03 AM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Mx. Kara Maymi

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: evabmiller@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Eva Miller
<evabmiller@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2023 9:09 AM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Ms. Eva Miller

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: linds.alexander@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lindsey Alexander
<linds.alexander@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 10, 2023 7:54 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Miss Lindsey Alexander

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: arielle.x.ross@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Arielle Ross
<arielle.x.ross@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 10, 2023 6:38 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As a Jewish Oregonian taxpayer and healthcare worker, I am writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

As a taxpayer, I ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and with my community, I demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Ms. Arielle Ross

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: anne.koh@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Ann Koh
<anne.koh@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, December 9, 2023 3:16 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

OIC has promised the people of Oregon that public funds are invested and reinvested as productively as possible.

Given this commitment, OIC and PERS must divest from the destructive Berkeley Research Group. End our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group, and our implication in human rights abuses.

In addition, please institute a human rights criteria for all future state investments.

As an Oregon taxpayer, I am writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Ms. Ann Koh

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Marika Straw <marika.straw@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, December 9, 2023 2:29 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Divest from Elbit

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,

Please immediately divest the Public Employee Retirement Fund from the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems. As an Oregon taxpayer, I object to my taxes being used to support Israeli war crimes against the Palestinian people. In the last two months, Israel's bombardment of Gaza has killed nearly 15,000 civilians, including more than 6,000 children, using munitions and other weapons of war made by Elbit. The Oregon Treasury's investment in Elbit makes Oregonians complicit in the crime of collective punishment, which is forbidden by the Geneva Convention. We will not be complicit, and we will not be silent. Divest Now!

Thank you so much,

Marika Straw, Enterprise, OR

[REDACTED]

From: lrielly@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lori Rielly
<lrielly@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, December 8, 2023 2:13 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Ms. Lori Rielly

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: maddi.parvankin@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Madeline Parvankin
<maddi.parvankin@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 7, 2023 7:46 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Ms. Madeline Parvankin

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: chriscoughlin60@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Chris Coughlin <chriscoughlin60@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 7, 2023 6:45 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

From: Niomi Markel <niomi.r.markel@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 7, 2023 9:33 AM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Divest from Fossil Fuels

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Good morning,

My name is Niomi Markel and I'm one of the leaders for Portland Youth Climate Strike, and a youth fellow for Divest Oregon. I'm here on behalf of all the kids growing up in Oregon who are starting to forget what it's like to enjoy summers without the threat of wildfires burning down our state.

I still remember summers when we didn't have to spend weeks under orange smoke-filled skies. I took for granted the forests and mountains that I grew up camping and backpacking in, but that all changed after the 2020 wildfires. Those fires, and the increasing number of climate crises that followed them, made me realize that I will never know a future safe from the threats of climate change. But instead of becoming paralyzed with fear, I started learning about how we've gotten here. I learned that carbon emissions are one of the key contributors to climate change, and that the fossil fuel companies responsible for those emissions are funded by state and public money. I also learned that the Oregon State Treasury is complicit in the destruction of our climate— the Treasury's investments in fossil fuels increased by 25% from 2021 to 2022, and you continue to enter into new fossil fuel investment contracts. Why do we as a state continue to fund things that are destroying our future and killing the people around us?

It is long past time that Oregon divests from fossil fuels. I call on the OIC to divest from fossil fuels.

Niomi Markel

From: Nancy Yuill <nancyyuill@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 7, 2023 8:10 AM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: public testimony of Dec 6 2023

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Hi,
Here is the public testimony I gave on December 6, 2023.

Coal is the single largest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions and it emits far more CO2 per unit of energy than oil or gas. [The CarbonBrief](#) analysis done in 2020 determined that to stay below 1.5C, emissions from coal need to fall around **twice as fast** in this decade, as those from oil and gas.

The CarbonBrief analysis looked at all relevant pathways to staying below 1.5c, and every integrated assessment modeled the need for this steep drop in coal emissions. Because coal is the dirtiest greenhouse gas emitter, low-carbon alternatives to coal are more cost-effective and, therefore, more rapidly deployable than for oil and gas.

Coal is unhealthy for all lifeforms. A recent study published in the journal Science, found that fine particulate matter from coal exhaust was associated with more than twice the mortality rate compared to inhaling fine particulate matter from other sources. The benefits of moving away from coal are huge, especially for frontline communities.

Oregon closed our only coal power plant, the Boardman plant, in 2020: if it's too dirty for Oregon, how can it be ok for anyone else?

Yet when we analyze the Treasury's holdings, based on what we are allowed to view, we know OST has over a billion invested in coal. Action is long overdue, so this session we are putting forth the legislative bill known as the COAL act that uses aspirational language, at the Treasurer's request, and calls for three things:

- 1) Phase out coal investments according to the IPCC guidelines
- 2) No new coal investments
- 3) Report on the phase out of coal and its economic benefit

We know you have a fiduciary responsibility to ensure good returns for PERS, so Divest Oregon set out to analyze how the public equity coal stocks held by PERS have performed over the last decade to determine if they have underperformed or overperformed when compared to investing in the Standard and Poors (S&P) fossil fuel free index. According to our analysis, if the PERS holdings in those coal companies had

alternatively been invested in fossil fuel free investments starting in 2014, they would have outperformed the coal investments by an estimated \$340 million.

The underperformance of PERS' coal investments is likely much higher. OST has more holdings in coal, such as investments in corporate bonds and private investments. The specific investments in private equity funds are unavailable to us, but what we do know is that OST's September 2023 private equity portfolio invests in seven of the top ten private equity firms that the Private Equity Stakeholder Project found to invest the most heavily in oil, gas and coal.

For more details on methodology used for our coal underperformance analysis, please read our report, "[Oregon State Treasury Coal Investment Performance Analysis](#)." Available on the Divest Oregon web site.

Thank you.

--

Nancy Yuill

Pronouns: She/Her

[REDACTED]

From: cshebowich@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Caryn Shebowich
<cshebowich@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 6, 2023 10:27 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As a Jew, I'm outraged at the complicity that so many state institutions have in a genocide being committed in my name.

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Ms. Caryn Shebowich

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Wendy Lynn <wendyraelynn@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 6, 2023 8:08 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: divest from war

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,

Please immediately divest the Public Employee Retirement Fund from the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems. As an Oregon [taxpayer/PERS recipient], I object to my [taxes/pension] being used to support Israeli war crimes against the Palestinian people. In the last two months, Israel's bombardment of Gaza has killed nearly 15,000 civilians, including more than 6,000 children, using munitions and other weapons of war made by Elbit. The Oregon Treasury's investment in Elbit makes Oregonians complicit in the crime of collective punishment, which is forbidden by the Geneva Conventions. We will not be complicit, and we will not be silent. Divest Now!

PERS member

Wendy Lynn (she/her)

[REDACTED] [wendylynns](#)

[REDACTED]

From: Amy Ruff <aruff23@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 6, 2023 5:42 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,

As a PERS recipient, please immediately divest the Public Employee Retirement Fund from the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems. I object to my pension being used to support Israeli war crimes against the Palestinian people. In the last two months, Israel's bombardment of Gaza has killed nearly 15,000 civilians, including more than 6,000 children, using munitions and other weapons of war made by Elbit. The Oregon Treasury's investment in Elbit makes Oregonians complicit in the crime of collective punishment, which is forbidden by the Geneva Conventions. We will not be complicit, and we will not be silent. Divest Now!

Sincerely,
Amy Ruff

From: Ripple, William <bill.ripple@oregonstate.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, December 6, 2023 5:11 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Divest Oregon public comment

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Oregon Investment Council, Below is my testimony for the public record. Thanks, William J. Ripple

The Looming Climate Crisis: Urgent Action Required

My name is William J. Ripple. I am a distinguished professor at Oregon State University, where I do research and publish on climate change and climate policy. I am providing my title and affiliation for identification purposes only. The views I express here are only mine and may or may not be consistent with those of my employer, Oregon State University.

The next 25 years represent a critical juncture in our fight against climate change, a battle against feedback loops and tipping points that could irreversibly alter our planet. The acceleration of global warming threatens to amplify existing environmental challenges and push us beyond points of no return.

Feedback loops, such as the melting of polar ice caps leading to decreased reflectivity, and the release of methane trapped in permafrost as temperatures rise, are escalating the pace of climate change. Tipping points, like the collapse of major ice sheets or the disruption of ocean currents, could trigger cascading and unpredictable consequences.

Scientific models and climate observations indicate that we are on the brink of irreversible damage. Without immediate and decisive action, these phenomena could become our new reality, drastically altering ecosystems, weather patterns, and human livelihoods.

One of the most urgent steps we must take is rapid divestment from fossil fuels. Coal, the most carbon-intensive fossil fuel, remains a primary contributor to global emissions. Divesting from coal and other fossil fuels is crucial to curbing emissions swiftly. Redirecting investments toward renewable energy sources, sustainable infrastructure, and green technologies is imperative for a sustainable future.

Transitioning away from fossil fuels requires a multi-faceted approach, including policy changes, divestment, investment incentives, and public awareness campaigns. Governments, corporations, and individuals must collaborate to make this shift, embracing renewable energy and sustainable practices. This is especially critical because many countries plan to dramatically increase fossil fuel production by 2030.

We have a narrow window to mitigate the worst effects of climate change. Every day lost to inaction brings us further into uncharted territory and closer to irreversible consequences. The next few years will shape the future of our planet. We must act decisively, divesting from fossil fuels and reinvesting in a sustainable society, to secure a habitable world for generations to come.

From: Joshua Morrisett <jwmorrisett@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 6, 2023 2:12 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: OIC Elbit Divest

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,

Please immediately divest the Public Employee Retirement Fund from the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems. As an Oregon taxpayer, I object to my taxes being used to support Israeli war crimes against the Palestinian people. In the last two months, Israel's bombardment of Gaza has killed nearly 15,000 civilians, including more than 6,000 children, using munitions and other weapons of war made by Elbit. The Oregon Treasury's investment in Elbit makes Oregonians complicit in the crime of collective punishment, which is forbidden by the Geneva Conventions. We will not be complicit, and we will not be silent. Divest Now!

Please don't make funding state retirements based on the the destruction and death of Palestinians! You can do better! The world being created by Elbit won't be worth retiring in with war, death, and destruction.

Sincerely with regard for human life,

Josh Morrisett (he/him)
Oregon taxpayer residing in zip code 97236

From: Jenka S <jenkasoderberg@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 6, 2023 1:26 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Testimony for today's hearing

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Hello oregon investment council.

I arrived at 12 today for what I thought was a 12:30 public comment only to find that the meeting had been moved up. I am submitting this comment to the oregon investment council to urge you to divest from elbit systems immediately. I am a local government employee and invested in PERS, and a member of AFSCME Local 88.

Here is the testimony I was going to submit today at the hearing:

Today is the 61st day of the Israeli war on Gaza. This morning I woke up to a video of a woman in a tent, being asked by Bisan - one of the few Gaza journalists remaining (61 journalists have been killed) - what she brought with her when she left her home in the north. Nothing, she replied, they killed my one-month old baby. They killed my husband's father, and mother, and brother. They killed my one month old baby. What could I bring with me? Nothing.

She is one of over 1.5 million Palestinians who have fled their homes. Most of the homes in Gaza have been destroyed by Israeli bombardment, along with the oldest mosque - dating back to the 12th century, the Palestinian parliament, the largest university in Gaza, the Palestinian national archives, the entire al-Rimal neighborhood, which was known as the Paris of Gaza for its outdoor cafes and shopping malls, schools where families had taken refuge after losing their homes, hospitals and media outlets.

Every day I open my feed to more horrific pictures of Israeli atrocities carried out against the Palestinian people. And then, to find out that I am directly complicit - not just with my federal tax dollars that fund the Israeli military, but with my retirement fund investments as a local government employee - I am sickened. A genocide is being carried out right now, with our implicit support, using Elbit's weaponry. The least we can do is stop funding it!

I have seen with my own eyes the colonial land theft being carried out by the Israeli government. 20 years ago, I was in Qalqilia and got some of the first footage of the concrete wall that has now become a reality across most of the West Bank. Qalqilia, in 2002, had already become a city surrounded by a wall. No way in or out except through an Israeli military checkpoint. I was appalled that this could be happening in our modern media world, in the 21st century, and I repeat to you the words of the late Rachel Corrie, a young woman from Olympia killed in 2003 by an Israeli armored bulldozer - manufactured in Peoria Illinois by Caterpillar:

"This has to stop. I think it is a good idea for all of us to drop everything and devote our lives to making this stop."

Thank you.
Jenka Soderberg

[REDACTED]

From: willowbillo24@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Avery Billo <willowbillo24@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 6, 2023 9:55 AM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Ms. Avery Billo

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Judy Arielle Fiestal <judyarielle@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 8:34 AM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Divest PERS funds from Israeli Military

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Greetings Commissioners,

I am writing as a PERS beneficiary and an individual of Jewish background. I am horrified how Israel has been using American support to have weapons that have been annihilating Gaza. Specifically the Elbit Systems investment of PERS is supporting this atrocity. What Israel is doing now cannot be called self-defense but rather is an all-out attack on innocent individuals. It saddens me that my retirement is benefiting from this immoral action.

Please do the right thing and divest from this company and any other entities supporting this war machine.

Judy Arielle Fiestal
Portland, Oregon

From: Nic Francisco <nicfran@pdx.edu>
Sent: Monday, December 4, 2023 7:53 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Request from a concerned pension holder

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,

Please immediately divest the Public Employee Retirement Fund from the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems. As an Oregon state employee, I object to my pension being used to support Israeli war crimes against the Palestinian people. In the last two months, Israel's bombardment of Gaza has killed nearly 15,000 civilians, including more than 6,000 children, using munitions and other weapons of war made by Elbit. The Oregon Treasury's investment in Elbit makes Oregonians complicit in the crime of collective punishment, which the Geneva Conventions forbid.

Divest Now!

In Solidarity,
Nic Kekainui Francisco-Kaho'onei, PhD
Pronouns: *they/them*
Director
[Women's Resource Center](#)
Portland State University



To schedule an appointment with a confidential advocate, go to psuwrc.youcanbook.me

[REDACTED]

From: chaspinrad@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lauren Spinrad
<chaspinrad@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, December 4, 2023 7:44 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Emily <emilyransomlofquist@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, December 4, 2023 12:41 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment for 12/6 OIC Meeting

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,

I am a PERS recipient and I am asking that you immediately divest the Public Employee Retirement Fund from the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems.

As an Oregon PERS recipient I object to my pension being used to support Israeli genocide against the Palestinian people. In the last two months, Israel's bombardment of Gaza has killed over 15,000 civilians, including more than 6,000 children, using munitions and other weapons of war made by Elbit. The Oregon Treasury's investment in Elbit makes Oregonians complicit in the crime of collective punishment, which is forbidden by the Geneva Conventions. We will not be complicit, and we will not be silent.

We are asking that you divest now!

Emily Lofquist - AFSCME Local 88

From: Addison Bates <addbates5@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, December 4, 2023 12:41 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: I do not want to be invested in a military that commits war crimes and other crimes against humanity!

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,

Please immediately divest the Public Employee Retirement Fund from the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems. As an Oregon taxpayer, I object to my taxes being used to support Israeli war crimes against the Palestinian people. In the last two months, Israel's bombardment of Gaza has killed nearly 15,000 civilians, including more than 6,000 children, using munitions and other weapons of war made by Elbit. The Oregon Treasury's investment in Elbit makes Oregonians complicit in the crime of collective punishment, which is forbidden by the Geneva Conventions. We will not be complicit, and we will not be silent. Divest Now!

Elbit supplies the Israeli military with a wide variety of weapons, including missiles, bombs, drones, gun systems, and ammunition. Elbit technologies, including Torch-X command and control, electronic warfare (EW), display, and warning systems, are also integrated into the Israeli military's main fighter aircraft, battle tanks, and warships.

Best,
Addison Bates

[REDACTED]

From: catwhisperer91@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Eva Kirk <catwhisperer91@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, December 4, 2023 12:38 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Ms. Eva Kirk

[REDACTED] 97138-3631
[REDACTED] m

[REDACTED]

From: Andrea Bibee <atbibee@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, December 4, 2023 7:53 AM
To: OIC Public Comments

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,

Please immediately divest the Public Employee Retirement Fund from the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems. As an Oregon taxpayer and PERS recipient, I object to my taxes and pension being used to support Israeli war crimes against the Palestinian people. In the last two months, Israel's bombardment of Gaza has killed over 15,000 civilians, including more than 6,000 children, using munitions and other weapons of war made by Elbit. The Oregon Treasury's investment in Elbit makes Oregonians complicit in the crime of collective punishment, which is forbidden by the Geneva Conventions. We will not be complicit, and we will not be silent. Divest Now!

Please confirm when this action has been completed.

Thank you,
Andrea

[REDACTED]

From: Donald McKinlay <macmckinlay@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, December 3, 2023 11:15 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Divest PERS from Elbit Systems

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Oregon Investment Council,

It is with shock that I learned that our funds held in our Public Employee Retirement Fund have been invested in the military contractor Elbit Systems in the state of Israel. It is totally inappropriate that the retirement income of primarily public servants has been used to fund work used to harm people. Since we are all sadly learning the inhuman and genocidal cost of supporting war and its dedicated proponents as well as the captivity of a whole people under zionism, it is time to act on what is before us and turn the use of these funds toward something worthwhile.

Please **divest** PERS from the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems **now**. To support Israel and one of their war profiteers now in the face of the clear occupation, captivity and brutal ethnic cleansing of Palestinians would be socially and morally disgusting. We reject these crimes, and you, representing Oregon, must also not support them.

Thank you.

Donald McKinlay
Portland Oregon

[REDACTED]

From: msn9896@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Miranda Nelson <msn9896@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 3, 2023 10:43 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Miss Miranda Nelson

[REDACTED]

Sent:
To:
Subject:

D <r.dedes17@gmail.com>
Sunday, December 3, 2023 6:48 PM
OIC Public Comments
Divest from Elbit Systems

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,
Please immediately divest the Public Employee Retirement Fund from the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems. As an Oregon taxpayer, I object to my taxes being used to support Israeli war crimes against the Palestinian people. In the last two months, Israel's bombardment of Gaza has killed 20,000 civilians, including more than 6,000 children, using munitions and other weapons of war made by Elbit. The Oregon Treasury's investment in Elbit makes Oregonians complicit in the crime of collective punishment, which is forbidden by the Geneva Conventions. We will not be complicit, and we will not be silent. Divest Now-Please. For all of the civilians being inhumanely slaughtered and bombed in Gaza.

In Solidarity with the People of Gaza,
Rachel Dedes

[REDACTED]

From: jescika.sabas93@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jescika Sabas <jescika.sabas93@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 3, 2023 6:18 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Miss Jescika Sabas

[REDACTED]

From: Adrienne <absinor@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 3, 2023 12:32 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: PERS Divestment

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Members of the Oregon Investment Council,

I am writing to you as a concerned taxpayer of Oregon. I urge the Council to consider the immediate divestment of the Public Employee Retirement Fund from Elbit Systems, an Israeli military contractor.

As taxpayers, we bear a responsibility for how our funds are allocated and used. It is alarming to learn that our taxes may be indirectly supporting the operations of Elbit Systems. The recent military actions in Gaza, reportedly involving munitions and weapons supplied by Elbit Systems, have resulted in significant civilian casualties, including the tragic loss of nearly 15,000 lives, of which over 6,000 were children. This situation raises serious ethical and moral concerns that must be addressed IMMEDIATELY.

Our state's investments should align with our values of human rights and adherence to international law.

I strongly urge the Council to reevaluate this investment from a moral standpoint. We, as Oregonians, must stand firm in our commitment to ethical investing and ensure our tax dollars are not used in ways that contradict our values of human dignity and respect for international humanitarian standards.

Thank you for addressing this important issue.

Sincerely,
Adrienne Smith

[REDACTED]

From: Brian Smith <brianfrompurchasing@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 3, 2023 12:04 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Request to divest from Elbit Systems from a PERS member

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Members of the Oregon Investment Council,

As a member of the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) in Oregon, I am writing to express my deep concern and to urge the immediate divestment of the Public Employee Retirement Fund from Elbit Systems, an Israeli military contractor.

The involvement of my pension contributions in supporting Elbit Systems is profoundly troubling. Recent military actions in Gaza, where munitions and weapons manufactured by Elbit Systems were reportedly used, resulted in the tragic loss of nearly 15,000 civilian lives, including over 6,000 children. This association places us, as members of the Oregon PERS, in a position of indirect complicity with actions that go against the principles of the Geneva Conventions.

Our investments should reflect our commitment to human rights and international law. The continued financial engagement with Elbit Systems undermines these values and our state's ethical standards.

Therefore, I strongly urge the Council to consider the moral implications of this investment and to divest from Elbit Systems. Our stance on such issues should be clear – we must not be silent or complicit in matters that fundamentally contradict our values of human dignity and respect for international humanitarian laws.

Thank you for addressing this critical issue.

Sincerely,

Brian Smith

[REDACTED]

From: rimonalaw@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Rimona Law
<rimonalaw@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 3, 2023 11:47 AM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Mx. Rimona Law

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Mathias Quackenbush <mathiasquackenbush@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 3, 2023 8:42 AM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Please, divest PERS from Elbit! No tax money funding genocide!

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,

Please immediately divest the Public Employee Retirement Fund from the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems. As an Oregon taxpayer, I object to my taxes being used to support Israeli war crimes against the Palestinian people. In the last two months, Israel's bombardment of Gaza has killed nearly 15,000 civilians, including more than 6,000 children, using munitions and other weapons of war made by Elbit. The Oregon Treasury's investment in Elbit makes Oregonians complicit in the crime of collective punishment, which is forbidden by the Geneva Conventions. We will not be complicit, and we will not be silent. Divest Now!

With urgency,

Mathias Quackenbush, LCSW (He/him)
Portland, OR
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: kitzyayh@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Kitzya Herrera
<kitzyayh@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, December 2, 2023 10:28 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Ms Kitzya Herrera

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: reemmontasser@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Reem Mountaser
<reemmontasser@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, December 2, 2023 6:03 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Reem Mountaser

[REDACTED]

Sent:
To:
Subject:

.wells.tucker@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Catherine Tucker
<c.wells.tucker@everyactioncustom.com>
Saturday, December 2, 2023 4:45 PM
OIC Public Comments
Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Ms. Catherine Tucker

[REDACTED]

From: maddi.parvankin@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Maddi Parvankin
<maddi.parvankin@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, December 2, 2023 3:38 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Ms Maddi Parvankin

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: arushis2012@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Arushi Singhal <arushis2012@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, December 2, 2023 3:29 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Miss Arushi Singhal

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: hasij2@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of James Unger <hasij2@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, December 2, 2023 3:07 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Mr James Unger

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: kannonelizabeth@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Kannon Elizabeth
<kannonelizabeth@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, December 2, 2023 1:38 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Mx. Kannon Elizabeth

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: helenp54321@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Helen Peccia <helenp54321@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, December 2, 2023 2:30 AM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Ms. Helen Peccia

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Jose Irdinez <joseordonez1962@icloud.com>
Sent: Saturday, December 2, 2023 12:36 AM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Hi my name is Jose I have in account with Oregon saves in I got nothing but problems with the people work in tha office I call about 3 days ago I ask for 500 dollars the go straight to my. Personal account she told me me take 1 to 2 days nex day I cal...

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

From: 1felixmarlowe@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Felix Roskelley
<1felixmarlowe@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, December 2, 2023 12:00 AM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Mr. Felix Roskelley

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: ben.demilo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Ben Stickney
<ben.demilo@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, December 1, 2023 9:52 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Mr. Ben Stickney

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: shahd817@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Shahd Al-Jawhari <shahd817@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 30, 2023 8:38 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Miss Shahd Al-Jawhari

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: sthorpe16@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Stephen Thorpe <sthorpe16@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 30, 2023 6:46 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Mr. Stephen Thorpe

[REDACTED]

From: Croix Swanson <croixcs@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 30, 2023 4:32 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Divest

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,

Please immediately divest the Public Employee Retirement Fund from the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems. As an Oregon taxpayer, I object to my taxes being used to support Israeli war crimes against the Palestinian people. In the last two months, Israel's bombardment of Gaza has killed nearly 15,000 civilians, including more than 6,000 children, using munitions and other weapons of war made by Elbit. The Oregon Treasury's investment in Elbit makes Oregonians complicit in the crime of collective punishment, which is forbidden by the Geneva Conventions. We will not be complicit, and we will not be silent. Divest Now!

Sincerely, Croix Carlson-Swanson

[REDACTED]

From: Kopali Serna <kopalita@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 30, 2023 2:24 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Employee Retirement Fund

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,

Please immediately divest the Public Employee Retirement Fund from the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems. As an Oregon taxpayer, I object to my taxes being used to support Israeli war crimes against the Palestinian people. In the last two months, Israel's bombardment of Gaza has killed nearly 15,000 civilians, including more than 6,000 children, using munitions and other weapons of war made by Elbit. The Oregon Treasury's investment in Elbit makes Oregonians complicit in the crime of collective punishment, which is forbidden by the Geneva Conventions. We will not be complicit, and we will not be silent. Divest Now!

--

Karina Kopali Serna

[REDACTED]

From: albert kong <albert@kong.cat>
Sent: Thursday, November 30, 2023 8:24 AM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Pension investments - comment

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,

I am a resident of Albany, OR. As an Oregon taxpayer, I object to my tax dollars being used to fund war crimes by the Israeli military contract Elbit Systems. Please immediately divest the Public Employee Retirement Fund from this company. Their provision of munitions and tools of war to the Israeli military has supported the bombardment of Gaza, killing 15,000 civilians who cannot escape this campaign of terror and collective punishment. This is forbidden by the Geneva Conventions. Do not make Oregonians complicit in war crimes.

Albert Kong

[REDACTED]

From: glasslab@fastmail.fm
Sent: Thursday, November 30, 2023 7:49 AM
To: OIC Public Comments
Cc: Sen Gelser Blouin; Rep Rayfield
Subject: Please sell the stock in Elbit owned by PERS. William Glassmire, Corvallis Oregon

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

To the Oregon Investment Council:

Oregon's Public Employee Retirement Fund owns stock in Elbit Systems, an Israeli company which produces military weapons. Weapons made by Elbit are supporting the Israeli attack on Gaza, which is killing civilians indiscriminately and destroying infrastructure such as hospitals. Through the Council's investment of Oregonians' taxes in Elbit, you and I and all Oregonians are supporting Israel's war on Gaza. That is immoral and illegal under the Geneva Conventions.

I want my tax money to support well-being, not war. Please sell the stock in Elbit owned by PERS.

Thank you.

With respect and anger,
William Glassmire
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Angela Thornton <angelanthornton@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 30, 2023 7:02 AM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Divest from Elbit!!

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,

Please immediately divest the Public Employee Retirement Fund from the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems. As an Oregon taxpayer, I object to my taxes being used to support Israeli war crimes against the Palestinian people. In the last two months, Israel's bombardment of Gaza has killed nearly 15,000 civilians, including more than 6,000 children, using munitions and other weapons of war made by Elbit. The Oregon Treasury's investment in Elbit makes Oregonians complicit in the crime of collective punishment, which is forbidden by the Geneva Conventions. We will not be complicit, and we will not be silent. Divest Now!

Thank you,

Angela Thornton
Portland OR, 97218

From: Sharon A Thornagle <sthornagle@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 10:30 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: PERS funds

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Please withdraw investments from Elbit Systems, a contractor for Israel during this atrocious war. I am dismayed that PERS invests in war.

Sharon Thornagle
PERS Retiree

Perspective is everything.



From: Holly Johnsen <holly.w.johnsen@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 7:50 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Divest from Israel

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Hello, I'm a school counselor in Portland and I'm a PERS recipient. I'm reaching out to ask that PERS is immediately suggested from funding the Israeli military through Elbit Systems. Anyone who does an hour of research will discover Israel's colonial project over the Palestinian territories, the violent apartheid state they continue to uphold, and the hundreds of child political prisoners that they incarcerate long before 10/7/23.

Now they're, with impunity, executing the textbook definition of collective punishment by indiscriminately attacking the civilians of Gaza and even the West Bank with their world class military that not only my tax dollars fund, but now, I discover, my retirement investment funds.

We're truly living through a dystopian time if I can watch a genocide happening on my phone with no world leaders intervening and my labor is paying for it against my will. I'm funding the death of 15000 people and counting and I cannot live with that fact. Can you?

[REDACTED]

From: Jeanette DeCastro <decastro.jeanette@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 6:33 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Divest from war mongering corporations

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Please note my objection to the public investment (PERS) in Elbit Systems particularly and in war contractors generally. Drop them, drop all war contractors. Invest in business that builds, not destroys. I work in the public sector to contribute to community, not blow it to smithereens.

Respectfully,
Jeanette DeCastro

[REDACTED]

From: Paul Cienfuegos <paul@100fires.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 5:51 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: URGENT re: Elbit Systems investment

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

I am writing to you today to let you know that Oregon taxpayers do not want to be invested in a military that commits war crimes and other crimes against humanity! Stop investing public retirement funds in Elbit Systems! Our public money to finance and invest in this destruction is unacceptable to me and a wide swath of Oregonians!

Paul Cienfuegos
[REDACTED]

Sent:
To:
Subject:

Cogurik <vesnacogurik@yahoo.com>
Wednesday, November 29, 2023 5:46 PM
OIC Public Comments
Public comment

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,

Please immediately divest the Public Employee Retirement Fund from the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems. As an Oregon taxpayer/PERS recipient, I object to my taxes and pension being used to support Israeli war crimes against the Palestinian people.

In the last two months, Israel's bombardment of Gaza has killed nearly 15,000 civilians, including more than 6,000 children, using munitions and other weapons of war made by Elbit. The Oregon Treasury's investment in Elbit makes Oregonians complicit in the crime of collective punishment, which is forbidden by the Geneva Conventions.

We will not be complicit, and we will not be silent. Divest Now!

Sincerely,

Vesna Hopkins

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: Berthe Leodra Palmrose <isus66739@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 5:02 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Objection to investing in genocide

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

To whom it may concern,

In 2022, OR PERS secured a 500-share stake in Elbit through a private equity firm. Given the atrocities committed in Gaza with Elbit munitions, this investment is unacceptable.

Please withdraw all shares from this firm and invest in peace not war. Israel has kept Gaza and the West bank in a state of apartheid and siege and then has been committing war crimes on the Palestinian people. These are facts not slurs. It is not antisemitic to call the Israeli state an apartheid state. Amnesty International, for example, has declared that Israel meets the criteria of apartheid. Supplying them with weapons is unacceptable.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Berthe Palmrose
Corvallis Oregon

[REDACTED]

From: Katherine Howton <katherinehowton@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 4:46 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Divest

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of of the Oregon investment fund As a PERS member, I am asking you to please divest from the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems.

From my nine years working with Palestinian refugees, speaking with medical professionals working in Gaza and speaking with American Jews who have lived in Israel, I know that I don't want any of my retirement funds invested in the destruction of the Palestinian people.

I do not care to be part of the collective punishment and genocide of Palestinians

Thank you
Katherine Howton
Sent from my iPhone

From: clancy kramer <clancykramer@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 4:38 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,

Please immediately divest the Public Employee Retirement Fund from the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems.

Elbit Systems Ltd, headquartered in Israel, designs, manufactures, and sells munitions, combat vehicles, drones, electronic warfare systems, cybersecurity technologies, and other weapons and surveillance systems.

For years, these weapons have routinely been used against Palestinian civilians, resulting in numerous casualties as well as mass destruction of homes and civilian infrastructure, including hospitals, schools, and water and electric systems.

As an Oregon taxpayer, I object to my taxes being used to support Israeli war crimes against the Palestinian people. In the last two months, Israel's bombardment of Gaza has killed nearly 15,000 civilians, including more than 6,000 children, using munitions and other weapons of war made by Elbit. The Oregon Treasury's investment in Elbit makes Oregonians complicit in the crime of collective punishment, which is forbidden by the Geneva Conventions. We will not be complicit, and we will not be silent. Divest Now!

[REDACTED]

From: cgullans22@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of clover gullans <cgullans22@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 4:30 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Mx. clover gullans

[REDACTED]

From: Tammy Abu-Husein <tammyabu@msn.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 4:11 PM
To: OIC Public Comments; OIC Public Comments
Subject: Elbit Systems Divestment Request

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,

Please immediately divest the Public Employee Retirement Fund from the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems. As an Oregon taxpayer, I object to my taxes being used to support Israeli war crimes against the Palestinian people. In the last two months, Israel's bombardment of Gaza has killed nearly 15,000 civilians, including more than 6,000 children, using munitions and other weapons of war made by Elbit. The Oregon Treasury's investment in Elbit makes Oregonians complicit in the crime of collective punishment, which is forbidden by the Geneva Conventions. We will not be complicit, and we will not be silent. Divest Now!

My husband is a Palestinian-American whose family was forced out of the West Bank many years ago. While his family still owns their farm there, they will never be able to return to that farm because of Israel's restrictions. His brother's wife's Uncle and family died in the bombings in Gaza. We tend to think of this war as beginning on October 7th because our federal government, Israel, and the media have told us to, but the truth is that it has been ongoing since the beginning of the Zionist's military action in 1948 that displaced and killed Palestinians who inhabited the land of Palestine. This violence has lead to an Apartheid state with Israel ruling over the Indigenous Peoples of Palestine with cruelty, inequality, and segregation.

We, Oregonians, We, Americans, We, Humans, cannot continue to support this Apartheid. One way to send a message that we don't condone collective punishment, apartheid, and internment camps is to divest from companies who are supplying weapons such as Elbit.

Please do the humanitarian thing and send a message that Oregon refuses to support collective punishment and apartheid. Divest Now!

Sincerely,

Tammy L. Abu-Husein

From: Donna Albert <donna.albert@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 4:10 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Oregon State Treasury's private equity investment in Rio Grande LNG

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

To the Oregon State Treasury:

I was surprised to learn that both the Oregon State Treasury and the Washington State pension fund have invested hundreds of millions of dollars in Global infrastructure Fund V, which is invested in the Rio Grande LNG terminal project.

There do not appear to be policies in place to align either Oregon or Washington state pension fund investments with emissions limits, or with climate justice principles that would avoid burdening communities unfairly:

- Our state pension funds should not be expected to harm others for financial gain. Investing in the Rio Grande LNG project threatens the health and safety of the people who live nearby, and even encroaches on a Carrizo Comecrudo burial site listed by the World Monuments Fund. I recommend you listen to the people who are directly harmed by your investment.
- This LNG terminal project creates massive climate emissions -- the equivalent to the emissions of 44 coal plants each year. According to Bill McKibben, "If the LNG build-out continues here and in Canada and Australia its sheer size will overwhelm our efforts to rein in global warming." Investing in new LNG terminals makes the physical and economic costs of climate worse for all our children.

Your fossil fuel investments cause physical and economic harm globally, impoverishing everyone's future, including the future of pension fund beneficiaries and the people of Oregon and Washington, and sadly impoverishing the future of our own children. Communities near fossil fuel infrastructure unfairly pay the highest price. This investment is unjust.

Donna Albert, PE (retired), MCE
Former WFSE member, Washington State PERS 2
Divest Washington

From: Jackie Salzinger <jackie.salzinger@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 3:36 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Please divest from Elbit immediately

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,

Once again I am horrified to learn that so much state money is invested in companies partaking in grave human rights violations--known, documented, in plain sight for our decision makers to take under consideration to inform their actions. Please divest immediately the Public Employee Retirement Fund from the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems. As an Oregonian I object to state taxes being used to support Israeli war crimes against the Palestinian people. In the last two months, Israel's bombardment of Gaza has killed thousands of people, largely children, using munitions and other weapons of war made by Elbit. This is well known and well documented. The Oregon Treasury's investment in Elbit makes Oregonians complicit in the crime of collective punishment, which is forbidden by the Geneva Conventions. We will not be complicit, and we will not be silent. We are calling upon you as our public decision makers to put us in right moral standing in the world with our massive state financial systems and the power they represent.

Boycott was a part of the story of the South African apartheid system ending, and it will be too with the political system in Israel/Palestine that has so devalued and destroyed Palestinian life. We need you to take action TODAY regarding a company that has profited from the sale of weapons funding an ongoing genocide:

<https://jewishcurrents.org/a-textbook-case-of-genocide>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/11/10/opinion/israel-gaza-genocide-war.html>

Thank you for your time and I hope you heed my and other concerned citizens' message. We will never let those in power forget who are silent in this moment about the horrors currently going on with our public officials' blessing and financial support.

Jacqueline Salzinger
97229

[REDACTED]

From: Peter Miller <peteskitoo@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 3:24 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: We are failing to address Climate Change, we need to divest now!

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,

The world is failing to address climate change in a significant way and failing hard.

According to an article in The Guardian, "The United States is poised to extract more oil and gas than ever before in 2023, a year that is certain to be the hottest ever recorded."

Quoting the Guardian Article:

"The US's surging fossil fuel production casts a pall over such ambitions, however. "It's particularly alarming to see the projections of record US oil and gas production year after year until 2050," said Michael Lazarus, a senior scientist at Stockholm Environment Institute, which helped produce a recent UN report finding the world is planning double the amount of fossil fuel production consistent with remaining within a 1.5C (2.7F) global temperature rise compared with pre-industrial times.

"The US is locking in production for years that makes it hard to meet climate goals," he said. "It's out of sync and it needs reckoning."

(see
<https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.theguardian.com%2Fenvironment%2F2023%2Fnov%2F27%2Fus-oil-gas-record-fossil-fuels-cop28-united-nations&data=05%7C01%7COIC.PublicComments%40ost.state.or.us%7C4fb890b8b9e4400ac28608dbf13243d5%7C9123ae20585d446aabd650dad4c7c1d5%7C0%7C0%7C638368970466463949%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljojMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=4Ge5WWcjNnQUFr1oEz4a4MgDbHfKyh4kwsPL6ck1eM%3D&reserved=0>)

This lack of significant action and the dire crisis that will result make your efforts to eliminate investments in fossil fuels woefully inadequate. The future of the planet, of other species, of our civilization, of the lives of billions should weigh on your minds more than it does.

Please, please, take significant and immediate action to do your part and eliminate fossil fuels from Oregon's portfolio.

Sincerely,

Peter Miller
[REDACTED]

From: Meghan S <meggles0229@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 3:16 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Elbit Systems

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,

Please immediately divest the Public Employee Retirement Fund from the Israeli military contractor, Elbit Systems. I am an Oregon taxpayer, and I object to the money from my taxes being used for Israel's attack, war crimes, and outright genocide against the Palestinian people.

Israel's bombardment of Gaza has killed over 15,000 civilians, over 6,000 children along with 36,000 people who have been injured; within the short time of 8 weeks. Palestinians have lost their lives, or their entire families, or have become mauled, and/or dismembered. Palestinians have died during procedures for their injuries because of the lack of anesthesia for the patients due to hospitals having been bombed. Another war crime.

Moreover, Elbit supplies the Israeli military with a wide variety of weapons, including missiles, bombs, drones, gun systems, and ammunition. Elbit technologies, including Torch-X command and control, electronic warfare (EW), display, and warning systems, are also integrated into the Israeli military's main fighter aircraft, battle tanks, and warships.

The Oregon Treasury's investment in Elbit makes Oregonians complicit in the war crimes of collective punishment, which, as you know, is forbidden in the international laws of war i.e the Geneva Convention.

I am not complicit. We will not be complicit, and we won't be silenced.

Thank you. For your time.

M.S.

From: Sanela Basic <sanelabasic2011@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 2:59 PM
To: OIC Public Comments

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,

Please immediately divest the Public Employee Retirement Fund from the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems. As an Oregon Sanela Basic, I object to my **money** being used to support Israeli war crimes against the Palestinian people. In the last two months, Israel's bombardment of Gaza has killed nearly 15,000 civilians, including more than 6,000 children, using munitions and other weapons of war made by Elbit. The Oregon Treasury's investment in Elbit makes Oregonians complicit in the crime of collective punishment, which is forbidden by the Geneva Conventions. We will not be complicit, and we will not be silent. Divest Now!

Thanks, Sanela Basic

[REDACTED]

From: rainbowbutterflyinthespring@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lea Saito
<rainbowbutterflyinthespring@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 2:52 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Miss Lea Saito

[REDACTED]

Sent:
To:
Subject:

Adams <sos2010@yahoo.com>
Wednesday, November 29, 2023 2:46 PM
OIC Public Comments
Elbit Systems Ltd leadership failure

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,

Please immediately divest the Public Employee Retirement Fund from the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems. As an Oregon [taxpayer/PERS recipient], I object to my [taxes/pension] being used to support Israeli war crimes against the Palestinian people. In the last two months, Israel's bombardment of Gaza has killed nearly 15,000 civilians, including more than 6,000 children, using munitions and other weapons of war made by Elbit. The Oregon Treasury's investment in Elbit makes Oregonians complicit in the crime of collective punishment, which is forbidden by the Geneva Conventions. We will not be complicit, and we will not be silent. Divest Now!

Not a single Oregonian wants their name on genocide, ethnic cleansing or international war crimes. That this is even an issue for the Oregon Investment Council shows that the members of the council are ill suited or completely inadequate for the position they hold. This is a leadership failure. Correct this grotesque investment fund management debacle immediately.

John Adams
[REDACTED]

From the American Friends Service Committee:

Elbit Systems Ltd, headquartered in Israel, designs, manufactures, and sells munitions, combat vehicles, drones, electronic warfare systems, cybersecurity technologies, and other weapons and surveillance systems.

Elbit supplies the Israeli military with a wide variety of weapons, including missiles, bombs, drones, gun systems, and ammunition. Elbit technologies, including Torch-X command and control, electronic warfare (EW), display, and warning systems, are also integrated into the Israeli military's main fighter aircraft, battle tanks, and warships.

For years, these weapons have routinely been used against Palestinian civilians, resulting in numerous casualties as well as mass destruction of homes and civilian infrastructure, including hospitals, schools, and water and electric systems. These attacks include war crimes that Israel has committed during several major military offensives against the Gaza Strip, which has been illegally blockaded since 2007:

2022 ("Operation Breaking Dawn"): Within three days of this unprovoked offensive, Israel killed at least 33 Palestinians, including 17 civilians. Evidence of war crimes was recorded by Amnesty International.

2021 ("Operation Guardian of the Walls"): During this assault, Israel killed at least 261 Palestinians, including 67 children and 41 women. At least half of the fatalities were civilians, and more than 2,200 additional Palestinians were injured. Evidence of war crimes and possible crimes against humanity was published by Palestinian human rights organizations Al-Haz, Al-Mezan, and the Palestinian Center of Human Rights; Amnesty International; and Human Rights Watch.

2014 ("Operation Protective Edge"): During this 50-day assault, Israel killed at least 2,131 Palestinians, at least 1,473 of whom were civilians, including 501 children and 257 women. At least 11,100 Palestinians were wounded, including 3,374 children. Evidence of war crimes was published by Palestinian human rights organizations Al-Haq and Al-Mezan; Israeli organization B'Tselem; Amnesty International; and Human Rights Watch.

Border Monitoring and Surveillance in the US and Abroad:

Elbit has also provided its surveillance technologies—"field-proven" on Palestinians and installed along Israel's border walls—to U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) since 2006. The company provides U.S. immigration authorities with fixed and mobile/relocatable surveillance systems, ground sensors, drones, Border Patrol command and control platforms, and other technologies. Elbit has become one of 14 "giants in the [U.S.] border security business" in its bid to "build a 'layer' of electronic surveillance equipment across the entire perimeter of the U.S.," expanding "not only to the northern border [the U.S.–Canadian border], but to the ports and harbors across the country."

In 2006, Elbit acted as a Boeing subcontractor on CBP's Secure Border Initiative Network (SBInet) project, which attempted to create a "virtual wall" along the entire U.S.–Mexico border. As part of the project, Elbit provided Integrated Fixed Towers (IFTs) for deployment along stretches of the border in Arizona. IFTs are 160-foot surveillance towers outfitted with high-definition cameras, sensors, and advanced radars capable of detecting individuals and vehicles up to 7.5 miles away. Providing "constant 24/7 surveillance" along portions of the border, these surveillance towers send real-time data to Border Patrol agents at an Elbit-powered Torch command and control station.

[REDACTED]

From: PJ Carter <pjc125@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 2:45 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Employee Retirement Fund investments

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,

I would seriously prefer divestment from the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems by the Public Employee Retirement Fund.

As an Oregon taxpayer and a PERS retiree, I object to my taxes and pension funds being used to support the Israeli war against Palestinians. In the last two months, Israel's bombardment of Gaza has killed nearly 15,000 civilians, including more than 6,000 children, using munitions and other weapons of war made by Elbit. This blitzkrieg is horrific in its intensity and scope — as an oversized retaliation and also as seen within the historical context of Israel-Palestine relations since even *before* 1948. The Oregon Treasury's investment in Elbit makes Oregonians complicit in the crime of collective punishment, which is forbidden by the Geneva Conventions.

This issue has given me concern for months. It is impacting my thoughts regarding the upcoming Secretary of State race involving our State Treasurer. I would really like this to be addressed sooner rather than later.

Being complicit **is not acceptable. The PERS investment is legally suspect and, in my opinion, immoral.** We must not be silent. Facts matter. PLEASE: Divest Now!

P.J. Carter - [REDACTED]

From: mitch belott <mitchbelott@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 2:39 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Investments of funds belonging to public employment

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,
Please immediately divest the Public Employee Retirement Fund from the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems. As an Oregon taxpayer and voter, I object to my taxes being used to support Israeli war crimes against the Palestinian people. In the last two months, Israel's bombardment of Gaza has killed nearly 15,000 civilians, including more than 6,000 children, using munitions and other weapons of war made by Elbit. The Oregon Treasury's investment in Elbit makes Oregonians complicit in the crime of collective punishment, which is forbidden by the Geneva Conventions. We will not be complicit, and we will not be silent. Divest Now

As I write this email, I am 30 years old, and I already feel that I've seen too much war in my life caused by the same mistakes. We must learn from them, or we deserve every criticism that history will give us. Whoever is reading this now, you too are not absolved of any of the blame. Because we all know that we know better. We can't hide from it, we can't run from it. Inaction is just as powerful as the actions taken. At least when I go, whenever that may be, I'll know I didn't bite my tongue and help the world burn for only a temporary peace of mind. Will you be able to say the same?

With love,

-M

From: Gabriela Moreno <gabrielaesthermoreno@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 2:23 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Retirement Funds and Elbit Systems

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,

Please immediately divest the Public Employee Retirement Fund from the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems. Elbit Systems is headquartered in Israel, and designs, manufactures, and sells munitions, combat vehicles, drones, missiles, bombs, gun systems, electronic warfare systems, cybersecurity technologies, and other weapons and surveillance systems.

Elbit technologies, including [Torch-X](#) command and control, electronic warfare (EW), display, and warning systems, are also integrated into the Israeli military's main fighter aircraft, battle tanks, and warships.

For years, these weapons have routinely been used against Palestinian civilians, half of whom are children, and have ended countless lives. I refuse to be complicit in this destruction.

As an Oregon taxpayer, I object to my taxes being used to support Israeli war crimes against the Palestinian people. In the last two months, Israel's bombardment of Gaza has killed nearly 15,000 civilians, including more than 6,000 children, using munitions and other weapons of war made by Elbit. The Oregon Treasury's investment in Elbit makes Oregonians complicit in the crime of collective punishment, which is forbidden by the Geneva Conventions. We will not be complicit, and we will not be silent. Divest Now!

- Gabriela Moreno
A Jewish Oregon Taxpayer Refusing to Be Complicit in Genocide

[REDACTED]

From: Nancy Hedrick <nanhedrick2@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 2:19 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Please don't invest in Elbit Systems

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Please have a human rights screen for our public investments. Elbit is part of the military of the Israeli government that has killed thousands in Gaza in recent weeks, destroying the homes of thousands more, as well as schools and hospitals. The State of Oregon should not invest our money in this way.

Nancy Hedrick
[REDACTED]

From: Dima DivineWisdomConsulting <dimadashevsky@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 2:06 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Good afternoon,

As a tax paying resident of Oregon, I am reaching out to ask Oregon to divest from Elbit Systems, which has been used to create absolute atrocities in Gaza. It is unethical to use our public money to cause mass murder and ethnic cleansing of Palestinian people. Oregon taxpayers do not want to be invested in a military that commits war crimes against humanity.

Thank you,

Dima

[REDACTED]

From: Maxine Fookson <mfookson@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 2:03 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: PERS recipient urges OIC to remove Elbit Systems from the

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear OIC members:

I am a PERS recipient and am very grateful for your careful stewardship of our hard-earned money. I write with a very heartfelt request to you. I urge you to please immediately divest the Public Employee Retirement Fund from the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems. I have a number of objections to Elbit being one of the funds supporting our state pension plan.

As an Oregon PERS recipient, I do not want my pension funds being used to support Israel's assaults on the Palestinian people. Very likely in Gaza, this is amounting to genocide and certainly war crimes. This is the business that the arms manufacturer, Elbit, is in. In the last two months, Israel's bombardment of Gaza has killed approximately 15,000 civilians, including more than 6,000 children, using munitions and other weapons of war made by Elbit. The Oregon Treasury's investment in Elbit makes Oregonians complicit in the crime of collective punishment, which is forbidden by the Geneva Conventions.

In addition, Elbit manufactures equipment used for surveillance at the US-Mexico border. This surveillance, field-tested with Palestinians, greatly harms those who are fleeing persecution, poverty and violence in Mexico, Central, and South America, as well as others coming to our border from highly oppressive nations around the world (for example Afghans fleeing the Taliban who arrive at our southern border. Elbit towers are an integral part of the border surveillance program that has been found to be so inhumane and unjust.

As a PERS recipient, I strongly urge you to remove Elbit from the Oregon portfolio. Let us, as Oregonians, align our money and investments with our values. Thank you.

PLEASE, DIVEST FROM ELBIT NOW!

Sincerely,
Maxine Fookson, RN

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Kate Rayner Fried <katerf12@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 1:59 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Divest from Elbit Systems

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Hi,

I'm writing because I'd like to make a public comment on the investment of Public retirement funds into Elbit Systems, which is widely known as a one of Israel's largest military contractors. It is unacceptable for our public funds to be invested in this way, in a company that manufactures weapons that are currently being used in Palestinians in Gaza and are directly responsible for killing thousands in an ongoing genocide. I was also disturbed to learn that Elbit systems is a major contractor of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP).

As an American Jewish person, someone who is in solidarity with the Palestinian people, with migrants and Indigenous peoples of the Americas broadly, and as an Oregon taxpayer I ask you to immediately, entirely, and permanently divest from Elbit Systems. We do have a responsibility to stop funding weapons manufacturers with our retirement savings.

Thanks,
Kate

—
Kate Rayner Fried
katerf12@gmail.com

[REDACTED]

From: John <jmunson@rocketmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 1:58 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Stop investing in Israeli military

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

To: Members of the Oregon Investment

The Israeli military has killed over 15,000 Palestinians in Gaza in just over 50 days. Over 6,000 of them were children — that's as many as the total number of children killed in armed conflicts around the world during 2021 and 2022 combined. Many of the killings were committed by munitions and weapons made by ELBIT.

I urge you immediately to divest the Public Employee Retirement Fund from the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems. As an Oregon taxpayer, I vehemently object to my taxes supporting Israeli war crimes against the Palestinian people. The Oregon Treasury's investment in ELBIT makes Oregonians complicit in the crime of collective punishment, which is forbidden by the Geneva Conventions. We will not be complicit, and we will not be silent. Divest Now!

Respectfully,

John Munson

[REDACTED]
Portland

[REDACTED]

From: saepfelbacher@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Sophia Aepfelbacher
<saepfelbacher@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 1:23 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Ms. Sophia Aepfelbacher

[REDACTED]

From: April Slabosheski <aslabosheski@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 1:22 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Divest now from Elbit Systems

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,

I'm writing to ask that you immediately divest the Public Employee Retirement Fund from the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems. As an Oregon taxpayer I do not consent to my taxes being used to support Israeli war crimes against the Palestinian people. In the last two months, Israel's bombardment of Gaza has killed nearly 15,000 civilians, including more than 6,000 children using munitions and other weapons of war made by Elbit. The Oregon Treasury's investment in Elbit makes Oregonians complicit in the crime of collective punishment, which is forbidden by the Geneva Conventions. We will not be complicit, and we will not be silent. Divest Now!

April Slabosheski

From: Clifton Koski <cliffkoski@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 1:23 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Divest from Elbit Systems!

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,

Please immediately divest the Public Employee Retirement Fund from the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems. As an Oregon taxpayer, I object to my taxes being used to support Israeli war crimes against the Palestinian people. In the last two months, Israel's bombardment of Gaza has killed nearly 15,000 civilians, including more than 6,000 children, using munitions and other weapons of war made by Elbit. The Oregon Treasury's investment in Elbit makes Oregonians complicit in the crime of collective punishment, which is forbidden by the Geneva Conventions. We will not be complicit, and we will not be silent. Divest Now!

Clifton Koski
Milwaukie, Oregon

[REDACTED]

From: luciecarriker@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lucie Carriker
<luciecarriker@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 1:21 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveill and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Miss Lucie Carriker

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: bryleighoneil1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Blue Oneil <bryleighoneil1@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 1:21 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment to OIC: Divest from Israeli Spyware Firm NSO Group

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear Public Comment,

As Oregon taxpayers, many of whom are union members and beneficiaries in the public employee retirement system, we are writing to express our strong objection to the Oregon public pension fund's investment in Novalpina Capital Fund 1, now managed by Berkeley Research Group, the current managers of the private equity firm that owns a majority stake in NSO Group. Last year, the Oregon Education Association, the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Oregon AFSCME all approved a resolution to advocate for state divestment from NSO Group, the company that created Pegasus spyware. As has been widely reported, NSO Group provides surveillance technology to authoritarian regimes, enabling grave human rights abuses. Additionally, NSO group, an Israeli company, is currently assisting in facilitating genocide against Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reportedly being used by the Israeli military to surveil and then kill Palestinians.

Oregon's investment in the Berkeley Research Group is highly unethical and is endangering state employee pensions by investing in long-term risky spyware. Israel's credit rating has been downgraded by Moody's, and it is financially irresponsible to invest pension funds in an Israeli company that is directly contributing to this turmoil.

We ask that the Oregon Investment Council take the following actions:

1. Immediately divest state pension funds from Berkeley Research Group, ending our state's partnership with the firm, and, by extension, NSO Group.
2. Implement a human rights screening for all future state investments, and especially for the public employee pension fund.

A partnership between Oregon and NSO Group should have never existed to begin with, and we demand that the Oregon State Treasury and Oregon Investment Council address this issue immediately. This is not only an argument about ethical investment, but a demand to stop taking this massive financial risk with our investments. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Mx. Blue Oneil

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Chelsea Hetelson <chelouison@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 12:49 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: We Will Not Invest in Elbit Systems

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,

Please immediately divest the Public Employee Retirement Fund from the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems. As an Oregon taxpayer, I object to my taxes being used to support Israeli war crimes against the Palestinian people. In the last two months, Israel's bombardment of Gaza has killed nearly 20,000 civilians, including more than 8,000 children, using munitions and other weapons of war made by Elbit. The same Elbit that Oregon Treasury is invested in. This investment makes Oregonians complicit in the crime of collective punishment, which is forbidden by the Geneva Conventions.

Divestment is one of our few tools we Americans have to make change in this world. We vote with our dollars in this society. We do not endorse genocide. We will not bank roll genocide. We will not be complicit, and we will not be silent. Divest Now!

Chelsea Hetelson
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Jenka S <jenkasoderberg@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 12:29 PM
To: OIC Public Comments
Subject: Elbit

This email is from a party external to Treasury. Use care with links and attachments.

Dear members of the Oregon Investment Council,

Please immediately divest the Public Employee Retirement Fund from the Israeli military contractor Elbit Systems. As an Oregon public employee invested in PRRS, I object to my pension being used to support Israeli war crimes against the Palestinian people. In the last two months, Israel's bombardment of Gaza has killed nearly 15,000 civilians, including more than 6,000 children, using munitions and other weapons of war made by Elbit. The Oregon Treasury's investment in Elbit makes Oregonians complicit in the crime of collective punishment, which is forbidden by the Geneva Conventions. We will not be complicit, and we will not be silent. Divest Now!

Jenka Soderberg