

Dear professor Van Nieuwenhuyse,

We hope this email finds you well. We kindly ask for your time to read our letter urging you to rethink the ongoing collaboration with Kibbutzim College. We are contacting you in your capacity as promotor of the Horizon Europe project *Integrating innovative theories and practices in historical culture and education*.

We, members of the Faculty of Arts, are concerned about the complicity of our university in the Israeli occupation of Palestine and the Israeli apartheid regime. The ICJ has found “plausible” grounds to believe that Israel is committing a genocide. Whether they will find Israel guilty will be determined in the coming years. The Palestinians in Gaza do not have years to wait for the judiciary system. In our concern for the complicity of KU Leuven, we repeat the chants of the public protests that “never again is now.”

A tool ready at hand for academics in this struggle is an academic boycott of Israel. The BDS movement in general, advocates for a further cultural and economic boycott of Israel. An academic boycott is never a boycott of individuals, but of institutions. [The guidelines](#) include not “providing advice, review or referee services to Israeli universities” and not participating in “research and development projects with complicit Israeli academic institutions, the Israeli government or complicit corporations.” There are further explanations to each point, which underline how this is not a boycott aimed at individuals. We therefore ask you to consider your position as promotor in relation to Kibbutz College, and not the specific colleagues you are working with.

Our rector has repeatedly reminded us that the university is apolitical. In a speech on May 21, Luc Sels stated that it was not the role of the university to tell the difference between right and wrong. Though we might disagree with the rector’s opinion – no institution is apolitical – we believe that to continue working with Israeli academic institutions is to condone Israel’s war on Gaza. While the rector can make vague postulations as to the apolitical position of KU Leuven, Israel’s university system has systematically been proven to be politically geared towards serving the state. Israeli academic institutions are deeply entangled with the military as they produce research which excuses and justifies apartheid. This collaboration between Universities and the state is to the detriment of all Palestinians. It is important to keep in mind that this collaboration is structural and embedded across disciplines and research topics.

Israel has received more funding than some European countries through Horizon Europe. One of the conditions for participation is respect for human rights and the upholding of international law. Israel’s violations of human rights precede October 7 of 2023, but the invasion of Gaza and the ongoing massacre cements their disregard for international law. If academic collaborations continue, KU Leuven protects an

academic system embedded in the Israeli state-project rather than following the guidelines of Horizon Europe and aligning itself with international law.

That is why we urge you to end this complicity of our faculty by advocating for the removal of Kibbutzim College from the *Integrating innovative theories and practices in historical culture and education* project. If you do not wish to boycott, we demand a clear explanation on how Kibbutzim College is not complicit in Israeli occupation, apartheid and now genocide.

We appreciate the time you took to read our letter and hope you will consider our plea carefully.

Kind regards,

members of faculty of arts + alumni: add names here (suggestion)

1. Nicolas Vallaey - student of linguistics and Literature
2. Sam Mechelmans - student of Cultural Studies
3. Febe Vanleeuw - student of linguistics and Literature
4. Eef Pannekoeke - student of linguistics and Literature
5. Victoria Casteels - student of linguistics and Literature
6. Vincent Hayen - student of art history
7. Jonathan Huyghebaert - student of linguistics and Literature
8. Swapnil Pritam xxx - student of Master of Western Literature, and Cultural Studies
9. Yannis Tate - student of Cultural Studies
10. Ida Van Houdt Sperber - student of linguistics and literature
11. Adèle Decae - student of Cultural Studies
12. Andrès Snauwaert- student of Linguistics and Literature
13. Ferre Smeets - student of linguistics and literature
14. Anna Fieremans - student of Master Westerse Literatuur
15. Lotte Verbrugge - student of Master Linguistics and Literature
16. Frauke Stox - student Master of Westerse Literatuur
17. Amélie Lorent - student of Linguistics and Literature
18. Emma Bogaert - student of Master Westerse Literatuur
19. Jelke Vrancken - student of linguistics and literature
20. Merel Snoeckx - student of linguistics and literature
21. Dr. Leanne Darnbrough
22. Kaat Bastiaens - alumna Master of arts in de Westerse literatuur en
Educatieve master of science in de talen
23. Laura Van den Eynden - student of linguistics and literature
24. Bas Tytgat - student linguistics and literature
25. Lucie Van Puymbroeck - student of Art History
26. Joke Swevers - student of linguistics and literature
27. Janne Schreurs - doctoral researcher - Faculty of Arts, History.

28. Valerie Vanlommel - alumnus Master in de taal- en letterkunde en educatieve master in de talen
29. Soetkin Borgelioen - alumna Master in de taal- en letterkunde en educatieve master in de talen
30. Wim Grevendonk, stafmedewerker onderwijs Letteren
31. Helena Van Schelvergem - student of Art History
32. Dillen Meulemans - student of Western Literature
33. Erzsébet Cobut - student of Master Western Literature
34. Hannelore Jorissen - student linguistics and literature
35. Janne Gielen - student of linguistics and Literature
36. Casimir De Ceulaer- student of Linguistics and Literature (Bachelor/Master)
37. Tine Korsten - student of linguistics and literature
38. Aiko D'Joos - student of linguistics and literature
39. Robbe De Bruyn - student of Linguistics and Literature
40. Delphine Rooms - student of Linguistics and Literature
41. Clara Woods - student of linguistics and literature
42. Sam Goven - student of linguistics and literature
43. Aslihan Gence - student of musicology
44. Bianca Gurbaksh - student of linguistics and literature
45. Doris Zachmann - student taal- en letterkunde
46. Rosa Weis - Student of Art History
47. Hendrik Roebben - Student Linguistics and Literature
48. Noor Hensels - Student of Cultural Studies
49. Vanya Vercammen - Student of Linguistics and Literature
50. Wannes Vanhoey - Student of Linguistics and Literature
51. Margot Clareboets - Student of Linguistics and Literature
52. Karlijn Harsevoort - Student of Linguistics and Literature
53. Jitte Van Olmen - Student of Linguistics and Literature
54. Anna De Loore - Student of Archaeology
55. Frieke Degelin Willekens - Student of Archaeology
56. Louis Vandavelde - Student of Linguistics and Literature
57. Kaat Engelen - Student of History
58. Leen Theunissen - Student of Archaeology
59. Ainhoa Van den Eynde - Student of Archaeology
60. Gitte Steurs - Student of Linguistics and Literature
61. Ferre O - Alumnus of Archaeology
62. Julie Mestdach - Student of Linguistics and Literature
63. Joppe de Hoog - student of Linguistics and Literature
64. Lander Neven - student of linguistics and literature
65. Kevin Plessers - Student of Archaeology
66. Niels Van de Ven - Alumnus Master Geschiedenis
67. Alexander Hilken - Alumnus Master Geschiedenis
68. Gert Van den Berghe - Master student of Ancient History
69. Emilia Schepens - Student of Linguistics and Literature

70. Elfie Teunen - Student of Linguistics and Literature
71. Eilidh Onstenk - Student of Linguistics and Literature
72. Lenka Geerts - Student of Linguistics and Literature
73. Sterre Moorkens - Student of Archaeology
74. Eline Baetens - Student of Linguistics and Literature
75. Anouk van Sas - Student of Linguistics and Literature
76. Eva Willems - Student of Linguistics and Literature
77. Sofie Schreppers - Student of Linguistics and Literature
78. Arnout Verlaeckaert - Student of Linguistics and Literature
79. Jinte Doumen - Student of Linguistics and Literature
80. Hanne Vanwalleghem - Student of Linguistics and Literature
81. Marlies Basstanie - Student of Linguistics and Literature
82. Betül Bakaç - Student of Linguistics and Literature
83. Silke Vermeir - Student of Linguistics and Literature
84. Jelinka Daelemans - Student of Linguistics and Literature
85. Merel Martens - Student of Linguistics and Literature
86. Noor Verbinnen - Student of Linguistics and Literature
87. Frédérique Markey - Student of Cultural Studies
88. Leander Huysman - Student of Literature and Linguistics + Digital Humanities
89. Eva Langenaken - Student of History
90. Anna Derhaeg - Student of History
91. Matthias Neyens - Alumnus Student of History
92. Heleen Fransis - Student of Linguistics and Literature
93. Juno Busschaert - Student of Musicology
94. Romain Verbrouck - Student of Linguistics and Literature
95. Eären Vandenberg - Student of Language and Area Studies
96. Joris Gentens - Student of Archaeology
97. Anna Perquy - Student of Linguistics and Literature
98. Robin Oscar Spruyt - Master Student of History
99. Amy De Mol - Student of Language and Area Studies: Japanese Studies
100. Jade Spruyt - Master Student of Western Literature
101. Marthe Cornille - Student of Linguistics and Literature
102. Pelle Merckx - Student of Japanese Studies
103. Hélène Ceulemans - Student of Japanese Studies
104. Nick Cardeneo - Student of Japanese Studies
105. Dorien Beerts - Student of Language and Area Studies: Chinese Studies
106. Lisa Cloosen - Student of Language and Area Studies: Japanese studies
107. Tiani Sevenants - Student of Linguistics and Literature
108. Sam Cloosen - Student of History
109. Merel Waeyaert - PhD student Literary studies
110. Zoë Van Cauwenberg - PhD student Literary studies
111. Nina Claeys - student of Linguistics and Literature
112. Annefloor Oosterlinck - student of Linguistics and Literature
113. Emma Musiek - Student of Archaeology

114. Carine Defoort, Professor Chinese Studies
115. Sieben Pirard, student of Language and Area Studies: Chinese studies
116. Gwen Van Rillaer - Student of Linguistics and Literature
117. Bauke Verschueren - student of History
118. Alex Scheers - Student of Language and Area Studies: Japanese studies
119. Tessa Ons - Student of Language and Area Studies: Japanese studies
120. Fatima Borrmann, PostDoc, Literary Studies
121. Lara Willems - Student of History
122. Stef Housen - Student of History
123. Kozimo Vanmarcke - Student of Language and Area Studies: Chinese Studies
124. Noori Comhair - Student of Language and Regional Studies
125. Ruyun Eekman - Student of Language and Area Studies: Japanese Studies
126. Melanie Walgraeve - Student of Language and Regional Studies: Japanese Studies
127. Andrea Orza - Student of Cultural Studies
128. Saraa Saleh, Lecturer, Department of Arabic and Islamic Studies
129. Yanah Goorts, student of Archaeology
130. Astrid Soetewey, Faculty of Arts
131. Stien Lehaen, Student of Linguistics and Literature
132. Moyra Hoflack, Student of History
133. Niels De Ridder, PhD candidate (Greek Studies)
134. Hannah Morrison, Student of Musicology and Cultural Studies
135. Suzanna Dikec, Student of CDRT
136. Siel Bosmans, Student of History
137. Bénédicte Born, Student of Cultural Studies
138. Maxime Meuwissen, student of Language and Area Studies: Arabic and Islamic studies
139. Loes Van Acker, student of Language and Area Studies: Arabic and Islamic Studies
140. Ansje Vanbeselaere, alumnus of Language and Area Studies: Slavic Studies
141. Kaat Vanden Abeele, alumna of Western Literature
142. Achille Rose Luna, Student of European Studies: : Transnational and Global Perspectives
143. Lara Simonovski - Student of European Studies: Transnational and Global Perspectives
144. Marie Meertens - Student of Linguistics and Literature
145. Michelle Reitano, Student of European Studies: Transnational and Global Perspectives
146. Katleen Van Impe, alumnus Taal en Letterkunde, Germaanse talen.
147. Anastasios Arvanitis, student Linguistics and Literature

148. Renato Perna, student of European studies: Transnational and Global perspectives
149. Leen Peeters, student of European Studies: transnational and global perspectives
150. Hajar Soussi, student of Linguistics and Literature - Language and Area studies: Arabic and Islamic studies
151. Louise Delrue, student of Bachelor of European Studies
152. Bo Schurmans, student of Language and Regional Studies: Japanese Studies
153. Nele Hertogs, student of Language and Area studies: Arabic and Islamic studies
154. Vittoria Maddalena, student of European Studies: Transnational and Global Perspectives on Europe
155. Lies-An Desaeveer, student of History
156. Anne Aerts - Student of History
157. Nette Claeys - ATP Letteren
158. Léa Van Aerschot, Student of Language and area studies: Japanese studies
159. Willem Luyten- History student
160. Sandra Mihali, student of European studies: Transnational and Global Perspectives on Europe
161. Desiree Custers - Alumna Arabic and Islamic studies KU Leuven
162. Athéna Loucanov- student of History
163. Amina Belaich Student of Arabic and Islamic studies KU Leuven
164. Therese Loriaux student Arabisch
165. Laure Van Grootel - praktijkassistent - Onderwijslab Letteren
166. Febe Boulanger - Alumna of History KUL
167. Mayra Bosch Student of Arabic and Islamic studies KU Leuven
168. Amal Toti Masterstudent Arabic and Islamic studies at KUL
169. Ot Lovász - Master student Arabic and Islamic Studies at KUL
170. Dina Sabhaoui student of Arabic and Islamic studies KU Leuven
171. Evi Gilbert, student of Arabic and Islamic Studies
172. Jan Verhoeven, alumnus Art History
173. Floris Ouwerkerk, student of Arabic and Islamic studies
174. Michèle Vermeire, student of Arabic and Islamic studies
175. Lotte Holsteijns - student in archaeology
176. Dries Hazenbosch - student in archaeology
177. Mien Geukens - docent Taal- en Regiostudies, Arabistiek en Islamkunde
178. Det Deprez, alumna Germanic Philology
179. Daniel Mencher, Student of European Studies
180. Indra Rypens, student of Journalism at KUL Brussels
181. Irama Zamora, Master student of European Studies: Transnational and Global Perspectives

182. Marta Boccardo, Master Student of Europeans studies: transnational and global perspectives
183. Hannah De Reymaeker, Master student of corporate communication, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
184. Thomas Marien, student BA Arabic and Islamic Studies
185. Jo Dupont - student in archaeology
186. Kato Deferm - Educatieve Master Talen
187. Ava Keller – Master student of European Studies: Transnational and Global Perspectives
188. Maria Ballester – Master student of European Studies: Transnational and Global Perspectives
189. Nerys Biesemans, student of European Studies: transnational and global perspectives
190. Zhiruo Zhang, student of European Studies: Transnational and Global Perspectives
191. Dorien Emmers, professor, Chinese studies
192. Jessica Stijlemans - student of Literature and Linguistics
193. Kayleigh Grace, Student of European Studies
194. Léonie Kunen, student of Linguistics and Literature
195. Willem Schram, Master student of Arabic and French translation
196. Lieselotte Lempens - student of Linguistics and Literature
197. Samira Essoufi, student Arabic language
198. Kaoutar Taouil - student of Arabic and Islamic studies
199. Ella Meyvisch - student of Linguistics and Literature
200. Naima Boulik - student of Language and Area studies: Arabic and Islamic
201. Kelvin Vanlinthout - student in Archeology
202. Kian Vanlinthout - student in History
203. Anna Claes - Linguistics and Literature Alumnus
204. Maartje Everaert - alumna & teaching assistant Linguistics & Literature
205. Manon Bénichou - Alumni Arab and Islam studies
206. Joachim Hoste - student Journalism and alumnus master Geschiedenis
207. Ikram Amraoui - student of Arabic and Islamic studies
208. Lauren De Bruyn, alumnus Arabic and Islamic studies
209. Shahmir Muhammad - Student of History
210. Frederik Thys - Alumnus Journalism, KUL Brussels
211. Mart Dalemans - Student of European Studies
212. Janneke De Keersmaecker - student of history
213. Ymke Fontyn - student in History
214. Klaas Joly - Alumnus Master in History & postgraduate Cultural Heritage
215. Stef Van Aken - alumnus Western Literature, Dutch & German teacher ILT KU Leuven
216. Willemijn Devillé - alumna Master Westerse literatuur, Estudios ibéricos e iberoamericanos, educatieve master
217. Emma Pessina, student of European Studies

218. Dr. Lara Sels, Greek Studies
219. Phoebe Scheepmans, student of Cultural Studies
220. Evita Verbiest, student of History
221. Laure Primerano, PhD Candidate, Literary Studies
222. Kelly Bloemen, alumnus faculteit Letteren Germaanse talen
223. Matas Filonovas, student of European Studies
224. Valentina Calovi, student of European Studies
225. Emma Wouters, Student of History
226. Carina Oprescu, student of European Studies
227. Sterre Aerts, student linguistics and literature
228. Natalia Kobiela, student of European Studies
229. Madalena Duarte dos Santos Chaves, student of European Studies
230. Mathias Vandenbroeck, Student Bachelor of European Studies
231. Celia Yun Pérez García, Student of European Studies
232. Michele Panizza, Student of European Studies
233. Douglas Aniceto Forster, student of European Studies
234. Amber Madou, student of European Studies
235. Marta Wódz, PhD student, Art History
236. Inez Schouten, Student of European Studies
237. Nicola Marone student, of European Studies
238. Jonah Geuens, MA in Art History
239. Melanie Detrez, student of Linguistics and Literature
240. Ela Glynn, Student of European Studies
241. Maïka De Keyzer, professor in history
242. Mirte Rombouts, student language and area studies: arabic and islamic studies: middle eastern studies
243. Rebecca de Graef, alumna Arabic and Islamic Studies
244. Marialena Avgerinou, PhD researcher Translation Studies
245. Rune Nieskens-Cornu, student of linguistics and literature
246. *Gaëla Van Passel, student in music therapy*
247. *Jesper Kuin, Student of Arabic and Islam studies*
248. *Antonina Bobak, Student of European Studies*
249. Eveline Thielemans, Alumnus Japanese Studies
250. Anna Rebeka Roziņa, Student of European Studies
251. Aagje Fort, student in History
252. Erika Shiraishi, student of Cultural Studies
253. Chiara Ghiotto, alumna of language & region studies: Arabic & islamic studies
254. Ellen Tersago, student of History
255. Marcelina Senda, student of European Studies
256. Maria Vallin, Student of European Studies
257. Douaa Amri - student of Arabic and Islamic studies
258. Victor Philips, student Geschiedenis
259. Ada Heuvelmans, student of History

260. Babette Van Dijck - student of History
261. Leila Oussalm, student of Applied Language Studies
262. Andrea Furone, student of European Studies
263. Elisabetta Sala, student of European Studies
264. Alice Gallorini, student of European Studies
265. Isabelle Cnockaert, student of European Studies
266. Riccardo Marsala, student of European Studies
267. Clotilde Ranalli, student of European Studies
268. Clémence Lallemand, student of European Studies
269. Chloé Bertilaccio, student of European Studies
270. Kaat Drijkoningen, student of History
271. Richa Adhikari, student of European Studies
272. Karen Casteels, alumna Romance Literature and Linguistics
273. Bran Vanachter, student of History
274. Charlotte van Hooijdonk, PhD candidate Literary Studies
275. Hana Mária Volný, student of European Studies
276. Helge Daniëls, Professor, Arabic studies
277. Sofia Lenker Andrade, student of Chinese studies
278. Oussama Youssef Macnack, subject specialist Eastern studies
279. Christina Sie, Student of History
280. Antonia Georgieva, student of European Studies
281. Rutger Hermans, student of History
282. Margarida da Rocha da Saúde - student of history
283. Arno Leyssens, Student of History
284. Siebe Terrones, Student of History
285. Joke Hofkens, student of History
286. Hanne Caluwaerts, student of History
- 287.** Jeremy Kalonda Muluba, student in History
288. Zeynep Eray, student of Western Literature
289. Gustav Verbraeken, student of History
290. Maher Hamoud, associate scholar, East Asian and Arabic Studies
291. Osama Diab, Research Associate, Department of East Asian and Arabic Studies, Faculty of Arts
292. Aagje Bertels, Student of History
293. Nel Neven, Student of Literature and Linguistic
294. Xanthe Op de Beeck, research associate
295. Kato Storms, student of History
296. Bart Lauwereins, alumnus Romaanse Filologie - Spaanse Studies
297. Mai Leunckens - Student of History
298. Jelte Jacobs, Student of History
299. Valentijn Prové - PhD student (Linguistics)
300. Kaat Goossens - Student of History
301. Alison Ahern - alumna Arabic and Islamic studies
302. Lara Smits - student of ancient history

303. Malou Dehaudt - student linguistics and literature
 304. Mette Kinat - student of History
 305. Stephanie Verbruggen - alumna Arabic and Islamic studies and alumna History
 306. Elisabeth Lein - student of linguistics and literature
 307. Seef Hafez - Student Master Arabic and Islamic Studies
 308. Carina Govaert - alumna Romaanse filologie
 309. Luce Johannes - alumna Romaanse filologie
 310. Audrey Regina - Student of Language and Area Studies: Japanese Studies
 311. Anaïs Devroede - Student of Ancient History
 312. Anna Poels - Student Culturele Studies
 313. Zita Audenaert - Student Applied linguistics French - Arabic
 314. Mahmud Ismailov - student of Arabic and Islamic studies KU Leuven
 315. Dries Put - Alumnus Faculty of Arts KU Leuven, Linguistics and Literature
 316. Jilka Swinnen - Student of linguistics and literature
 317. Mieke scholts - student linguistics and literature
 318. Warre Roelens - Student of History
 319. Atieh Asadollahi _ PhD researcher, Cultural Studies
 320. Arjan Post - professor arabic and islamic studies
 321. Liesje Geyskens - teacher Chinese studies
 322. Anna Sejbæk Torp-Pedersen, PhD Art History
- *members of faculty of arts and alumni: add names here (suggestion)*