

## Impacts of the BDS Campaign? U.K. -Israel Trade Slumps

Bilateral Trade between UK and Israel Slumped By 9% in First Quarter 2015: BDS Claims Success as Boycott Bites

By Anthony Bellchambers

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British exports to Israel collapsed by 13.68% whilst Israeli exports to UK fell by 4.24% compared to the same period of 2014, according to official published figures from the Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics.

Netanyahu government wakes up to the increasing alienation of the state in global diplomatic and trade circles as criticism mounts against Israel's continued blockade of Gaza and the Likud government's illegal colonisation of the Occupied Palestinian West Bank with 380,000 Israeli settlers.

Contemporaneously, the EU is reported to be insistent that all goods emanating from the Occupied Territories are to be clearly labelled as such in order that consumers in Europe and elsewhere can make an informed choice as to whether to support suppliers who are in illegal occupation.

There seems little doubt that the global BDS Movement is now impacting upon Israeli trade around the world in much the same way as the anti-apartheid movement did that eventually overturned the former South African apartheid government and brought Nelson Mandela to become head of an independent, democratic State.

The power of economic sanctions to bring about regime change, has been proven beyond doubt – which does not depend on military superiority but on the power of public opinion and the will of people around the world for freedom and justice.

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