

1000 activists are blocking the headquarters of shipping giant

Press release, Copenhagen, Monday the 24th of February 2025

This morning around 1000 protesters have moved through the centre of the Danish capital Copenhagen to the headquarters of the shipping giant Mærsk, where the protesters are now blocking the entrance.

The protesters demand that Mærsk stop all transport of military equipment to Israel. Further, they demand that Mærsk terminates all contracts with, and investments in, companies that support war and genocide - like Israeli companies that facilitate illegal settlements on the West Bank and the past 16 months' invasion and bombings of Gaza. Last but not least, by targeting one of Denmark's biggest companies, which undertakes large parts of Danish exports, the protesters want to pressure the Danish government into implementing a full embargo on weapon exports to Israel.

"By transporting military equipment to Israel, while Israel is burning Gaza to the ground, Mærsk is facilitating Israel's genocide. Therefore, we demand that Mærsk stop all their transport of military equipment to Israel immediately," says Alma, who is participating in the blockade, and adds:

"We also demand the Danish government to move to the right side of history by implementing a full embargo on weapon exports to Israel as fx Italy, Spain, Canada and The Netherlands have done already."

It is not the first time that Mærsk's headquarter in Copenhagen is the target of protests. In the summer of 2024 the company was targeted by several blockades, preventing the employees from getting to work. Several large, national demonstrations have also started and ended outside of Mærsk's headquarter on Esplanaden in Copenhagen.

"Mærsk is one of the biggest shipping companies in the world and it therefore has a huge impact what Mærsk decides to transport. As long as Mærsk cannot guarantee that their shipments are not used for war crimes and crimes against humanity, they are obliged to stop their transport of military equipment to Israel," says Layla, who is also participating in the blockade, and continues:

"Until now, Mærsk has chosen to ignore our protests against their involvement in Israel's genocide in Gaza. This is why we have decided to make our message more difficult to ignore by gathering a thousand activists from all over Europe in front of Mærsk's headquarters and disturb the company's operations."

Activists from all over Europa, like the Swedish activist Greta Thunberg who is also participating in today's blockade, have travelled to Copenhagen to spend the weekend participating in workshops, getting to know each other and starting new collaborations.

"We are completely taken aback by the support we've seen. With around 1000 participants from all over Europe, this is the biggest gathering of international activists we've seen in Copenhagen since the UN Climate Summit in 2009," says Alma.

For more information and statements contact:

Press e-mail: ctwg.media@proton.me

Press phone: +45 91 66 60 27

Background

The [Palestinian Youth Movement](#) has documented that Mærsk between September 2023 and september 2024 shipped more than 2100 shipments of military equipment to Israel including artillery systems and parts for armoured tanks.

[According to military experts](#), it is highly likely that the military equipment that Mærsk is shipping to Israel gets used in the war on Gaza. In June 2024 [the UN stated](#) that Israel has committed war crimes and crimes against humanity. All the while, Mærsk has continued their shipment of military equipment to Israel, which is very likely used to commit war crimes and crimes against humanity. Mærsk has still not guaranteed that this is not the case.

The Danish company Mærsk Liners has the last year been the target of an international campaign called Mask Off Mærsk, which seeks to bring attention to the ways that Mærsk contributes to and facilitates Israels bombings and invasion of Gaza. Read more about the international campaign Mask Off Mærsk on the [campaign website](#).

In extension of the international campaign, around 1000 activists from all over Europe have since last Friday been gathered in Copenhagen under the headline 'Cut Ties With Genocide' to take a close look at Mærsk and their involvement in both Israel's genocide in Gaza and Israels illegal settlements on the West Bank. The activities of the weekend culminate today in the blockade of Mærsk's headquarters.

"Since October 2023, citizens all over the world have joined the international solidarity movement for Palestine. There have been protests in many countries, like the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany and France, against Western companies that are complicit in the genocide. This weekend, activists from across Europe gathered in Copenhagen to build relationships across borders and consolidate the international movement which has been build around the struggle for a free Palestine," says Layla.