



**DIVEST
FROM THE
WAR
MACHINE**



Starting a
Divestment Campaign

DIVESTFROMWARMACHINE.ORG

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How To Take Action

The War Machine refers to the massive, global U.S. military apparatus that operates largely thanks to an alliance between the arms industry and policy makers. The War Machine prioritizes militarism and corporate interests over human rights, military spending over diplomacy and aid, preparing for combat over preventing wars, and profit over human life and the health of the planet.

We need to tell our universities, our cities, our faith communities, and more to stop investing in the companies that are literally making a killing on killing. Gather a group of community members (we can help you form groups!) and get to work! Here are some ways to get started in your community:

Divest your university, Alma Mater, or a University in your Community

1. Invite a group for a research party! Have everyone bring their laptops and research whether the financial institution has a Socially Responsible Investment (SRI) policy in place that explicitly prohibits investment in arms companies.
2. Get students, alumni, and even professors to write letters to the University Board calling for them to divest the endowment and/or retirement funds from companies that make a killing on killing.
3. Identify weapons companies the university is invested in or takes money from, and publish an ad in the student newspaper telling the administration to stop make a killing on killing.
4. Print out the ad and put it around campus and send it to trustees and key alumni.
5. Read more ideas for a university divestment campaign [here](https://divestfromwarmachine.org).



Get Your City Council to Divest City Funds

1. Host a letter writing party! Have everyone write a letter to City Council members requesting information on how the city invests its funds, and requesting the adoption of a formal policy excluding investment in arms companies.
2. Go to a City Council meeting and propose this [City Council Resolution](#) calling for divestment of public funds from weapons companies and the adoption of an investment policy that bans investment in arms companies.
3. Start a petition calling for City Council to divest from war and gather signatures outside a local grocery store.
4. Host a local lobby day and visit city officials, asking City Council members to advocate for funds to be directed toward life-affirming investments and asking them to pass legislation that solidifies that policy.
5. Host a rally in front of City Hall (or another government entity) and demand that the City stop funding war.
6. Read more about how to get your City to divest [here](#).

Tell Your Faith Community to Stop Funding War

1. Just like teachers, firefighters, and police, our places of worship often invest money in retirement funds. Go meet with your local church, temple, or mosque leader and talk to them about the institution's investments and why funding war is not in line with our religious principles.
2. Ask them to divest any holdings in weapons companies and help advocate for their partner institutions to do so as well.
3. If the local representative is a part of a national organization then ask them to work with you to change the policy of the organization at the highest level possible.
4. Read more about how to get your faith community to divest [here](#).

Do you need help with any of this? That's why we're here!

Email divest@codepink.org and we'll work with you on any step of this process.