



Technologies of Control

The Case of Hewlett Packard



Technologies of Control The Case of Hewlett Packard



The Coalition of Women for Peace was established by bringing together ten feminist peace organizations and non-affiliated activist women in Israel. Founded soon after the outbreak of the Second Intifada in 2000, CWP today is a leading voice against the occupation, committed to feminist principles of organization and Jewish-Palestinian partnership, in a relentless struggle for a just society. CWP continuously voices a critical position against militarism and advocates for radical social and political change. Its work includes direct action and public campaigning in Israel and internationally, a pioneering investigative project exposing the occupation industry, outreach to Israeli audiences and political empowerment of women across communities and capacity-building and support for grassroots activists and initiatives for peace and justice.

www.coalitionofwomen.org | cwp@coalitionofwomen.org



Who Profits from the Occupation is a research project of the Coalition of Women for Peace. Initiated with relation to the Palestinian call for boycott, divestment and sanctions (BDS) on Israel, Who Profits is dedicated to exposing the commercial involvement of Israeli and international companies in the continuing Israeli control over Palestinian and Syrian land. The project publishes information about these companies on its website, produces in-depth reports and serves as an information center.

www.whoprofits.org | whoprofits@yahoo.com

| P.O.Box 29214
| Tel Aviv 61292, Israel
| Tel: 972-3-5281005

Table of Contents

Introduction	6
OK Computer: the Basel biometric checkpoint system	9
Stratified Identities: the new ID cards system	16
Smart occupation: HP's contracts with the Israeli army	20
No boundaries: HP's activities in the Israeli settlements	23
Conclusions	28

Introduction

The Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territories is maintained and preserved by daily practices of surveillance and control. In recent years, those practices have been increasingly relying on technological mechanisms provided and managed by international and local corporations. Among those is Hewlett-Packard (HP)¹, one of the world's biggest IT companies.

HP's vast portfolio includes printing, personal computing, software, services and IT infrastructure. The company's head offices are located in California, but it operates in over 170 countries and employs over 300,000 employees worldwide. In 2010 the company's revenues reached 126 billion USD².

In its corporate responsibility policy (titled "Global Citizenship"), HP heralds global health and universal human rights as major pillars of its social agenda³. However, the values that HP claims to promote might seem contradictory to the millions of Dollars' worth of contracts it has with the Israeli authorities, choosing to be the provider of technological

1 See Who Profits, at: www.whoprofits.org/company/hewlett-packard-hp

2 HP financial news, HP website, <http://bit.ly/Aqlaou>, accessed s technological partner: ebsite:hoprofits.com.: www.whoprofits.org.on Nov. 20, 2011.

3 HP Global Citizenship: corporate responsibility policy, HP website, <http://bit.ly/Ar9IQv>, accessed on Nov. 20, 2011.

infrastructure, services, hardware and maintenance for the Israeli occupation. HP and its subsidiaries are major providers of technological solutions to Israel's systems of surveillance and identification. A recent example is HP's involvement in the checkpoints, which are a part of the separation wall apparatus declared illegal by the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in 2004, due to its de facto annexation of part of the occupied Palestinian territories (oPt)⁴. EDS Israel, an HP company⁵, is the prime contractor of the Basel system, an automated biometric access control system installed and maintained by HP in checkpoints in the oPt. The system operates by a magnetic card with biometric information⁶, which since 2005 has become mandatory for every Palestinian from the oPt who requests a permit to enter Israel⁷.

The permits system is directly related to another control mechanism HP is involved in: Israel's ID card system, which reflects and reinforces its political and economic asymmetries, tiered citizenship structure and restrictions on movement and access⁸. In 2008, HP signed a 270 million NIS contract with the Ministry of Interior for producing and manufacturing biometric ID cards for the citizens of Israel⁹. The execution of the biometric IDs was accelerated after the "biometric database law" was passed in the Israeli Knesset in December 2009¹⁰.

Additionally, HP provides services and technologies to the Israeli army. Among those is the administration of the Israeli Navy's IT infrastructure¹¹. The Israeli navy enforces the naval blockade on the Gaza strip, as a part of the air, land and sea blockade on Gaza initiated by Israel in 2007¹². The Israeli navy was also responsible for the freedom flotilla raid in May 31st,

4 Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory: Advisory Opinion, *The International Court of Justice Press release*, July 9, 2004, <http://bit.ly/DvIs>, accessed on Nov. 20, 2011.

5 HP purchased EDS in 2008. EDS merged into HP and since 2009 it's called: "HP Enterprise services". See Who Profits, at: www.whoprofits.org/company/electronic-data-systems-eds.

6 Roni Lifshitz, EDS will computerize the border passes between Israel and the PA (Hebrew), *Globes*, 1/9/1999, <http://bit.ly/we5saa>; OTI smart ID cards to power Israel-Palestinian border crossing, *Globes*, 20/8/03, <http://bit.ly/zMfHEX>; BC Kessner, Israel's Hard-learned lessons, *HSToday*, April 2006: 16-23, <http://bit.ly/zDu1ot>. Accessed on Nov. 20, 2011.

7 Helga Tawil-Souri, 2011. Colored Identity: The Politics and Materiality of ID Cards in Palestine/Israel. *Social Text* 107, 29 (2): 78.

8 Tawil-Souri, 2011: 71-76.

9 Israel's citizens new smart ID is on its way (Hebrew), *the Authority of population*, 1/12/2008, <http://bit.ly/wtRFBn>, accessed on Nov. 20, 2011.

10 The Law of including biometric identification and biometric identification data in identification documents and in a database, 2009 (Hebrew), *Israel's Law book registration*, <http://bit.ly/zO44ux>, accessed on Nov. 20, 2011.

11 HP Israel wins navy IT outsourcing contract, *Globes*, 14/8/06, <http://bit.ly/xMx9kR>; Israel Information Technology Report, *Business Monitor International*, July 24, 2008, <http://bit.ly/wRTeS8>. Accessed on Nov. 20, 2011.

12 Read more: Gaza Closure Defined: Collective Punishment, *Gisha position paper on the International Law Definition of Israeli Restrictions on Movement in and out of the Gaza Strip*, December 2008, <http://bit.ly/j86n9s>.

2010, in which nine activists died and dozens were injured¹³.

Furthermore, Two of HP's technological services providers in Israel are Matrix¹⁴ and its subsidiary, Tact Testware¹⁵, which are located in the illegal West Bank settlement of Modi'in Ilit¹⁶. HP is also taking part of the "Smart city" project in the illegal West Bank settlement of Ariel, providing a storage system for the settlement's municipality¹⁷.

Prior to publication, Who Profits sent this report to HP as well as to all other companies mentioned in it. None of the companies have chosen to respond to date.

13 Read more: Flotilla Campaign Summary Report, *IHH*, 2010, <http://bit.ly/bYP7RK>.

14 Matrix's homepage indicating HP as its technological partner, at: <http://bit.ly/yLmf4E>. Matrix information about the cooperation with HP, at: <http://bit.ly/z2lItj>. Accessed on Nov. 20, 2011.

15 HP's partnership with Tact testware, *HP website*, <http://bit.ly/f9wj2L>, accessed on Nov. 20, 2011.

16 The Modi'in Ilit address is not indicated in Matrix's website, only in official documents of the company and in the Israeli companies registrar. It is also accessible in the D&B directory (Hebrew), at: <http://bit.ly/zBjOeo>. Tact testware's Modi'in Ilit address is registered in the company's website, at: <http://www.tact.co.il/scontent/address>. Accessed on Nov. 20, 2011. For more information see Who Profits: <http://whoprofits.org/company/matrix-it>.

17 Ariel builds strong, new municipal storage network on HP StorageWorks All-in-One Storage System, *HP website*, July 2009, <http://bit.ly/z28F2x>, accessed on Nov. 20, 2011.

OK Computer: the Basel biometric checkpoint system

Israel's various mechanisms of population and territorial control and surveillance are mainly focused on Palestinians inside Israel and in the oPt. Those control mechanisms exemplify the abuse of power by the Israeli authorities and the intensive efforts to maintain the ethnic and territorial segregation of Palestinians. One of these mechanisms is the checkpoint system, which is a part of the separation wall apparatus.

The separation wall, 85% of which is located in the West Bank¹⁸, is due to annex 46% of the west bank, isolating 78 Palestinian villages and communities with a total population of 266,442. The wall includes watchtowers, a "buffer zone" for electric fences, sensors and surveillance cameras¹⁹. In 2004, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) found the construction of a wall in the oPt and in East Jerusalem illegal by international law and called Israel to cease its construction²⁰.

The checkpoints in the West Bank are often portrayed by Israeli officials as

18 West Bank Barrier Route Projections, July 2010, OCHA, <http://bit.ly/wNFSDA>, accessed on Nov. 20, 2011..

19 Read more at *Stop the Wall* website: <http://www.stopthewall.org/>

20 International Court of Justice Press release, 2004.

a security means, aimed at protecting Israelis from Palestinian violence. However, most of the checkpoints are positioned inside the West Bank, isolating Palestinians from each other, separating communities and making many towns and cities almost inaccessible. According to B'Tselem, the Israeli Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories, in October 2010 there were 99 fixed checkpoints in the West Bank, 62 of them situated in between Palestinian areas²¹. A fact sheet of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian affairs (OCHA) from September 2011 counted 522 roadblocks and checkpoints which obstruct Palestinian movement in the West Bank²². The movement of Palestinians is also obstructed by checkpoints deployed on an ad hoc basis without pre-existing infrastructure (so-called “flying checkpoints”). OCHA estimates a monthly average of 495 flying checkpoint in and around the West Bank²³.

Approximately 2.5 million Palestinians living in the West Bank and another 1.5 million living in Gaza²⁴ are affected daily by the checkpoint system and the separation wall, while over 335,000 Israeli settlers in the West Bank²⁵ do not have to pass through the checkpoints. They travel using bypass roads, available only to them, which connect West Bank settlements to each other and to Israel²⁶.

In October 1999, EDS Israel, an HP company, headed a consortium²⁷ which won a 10 million USD contract with the Ministry of Defense and the Israeli police to develop, execute and maintain the Basel system, a biometric identification system installed in checkpoints in the West Bank and in Gaza²⁸. The contract was signed in August 2000. The system was financed by the US government following the Wye River Memorandum²⁹.

21 Checkpoints, Physical Obstructions and Forbidden Roads, *B'Tselem*, <http://bit.ly/p3r1vf>, accessed on Nov. 20, 2011.

22 Movement and Access in the West Bank, September 2011, *OCHA*, <http://bit.ly/nKYzX4>, accessed on Nov. 20, 2011.

23 *Ibid*.

24 Palestine in figures: 2009, Palestinian National authority, *Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics*, May 2010, <http://bit.ly/Amtnud>, p. 11. Accessed on Nov. 20, 2011.

25 The number is based on a combination between the Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics List of Israeli towns, 2010, accessible at: http://www.cbs.gov.il/ishuvim/ishuvim_main.htm, and Shalom Achshav list of settlements, accessible at: <http://www.peacenow.org.il/>.

26 Movement and access restrictions in the West Bank: Uncertainty and inefficiency in the Palestine economy, May 9, 2007, *World Bank Technical Team*, <http://bit.ly/qJ9UQy>, accessed on Nov. 20, 2011.

27 EDS Israel was the prime contractor and systems integrator and provided the Automatic Control Assemblies with the integrated dual biometric (Hand Geometry and Facial Recognition); On Track Innovation (OTI) provided the contactless smart card technology and dedicated data security system; Credentia (DataCard group) provided the Enrollment and Issuing Subsystem; Oberthur Technologies USA manufactured the smart cards; Visionics Corporation provided its facial recognition technology; RSI provided the hand geometry readers and Team Computers (Malam Team) provided HP desk top and servers and field support and maintenance for the system. For more information about these companies see: www.whoprofits.com.

28 Lifshitz, 1999, *Globes*; OTI smart ID cards, *Globes*, 2003; Kessner, *HSToday*, 2006: 16-23.

29 *Arie Friedman v The State of Israel and the Israeli police*, 2007 (Hebrew only), <http://bit.ly/xmEbCp>; To

The Basel system was designed to biometrically control the entrance of permitted Palestinians from the oPt into Israel through the checkpoints. It reads facial dimensions and hand geometry. Palestinians who are permitted to enter Israel are enrolled into the system and issued a magnetic biometric card, which holds elaborate information including biometric templates and measurements (fingerprints, retinal and facial data) and personal and security data³⁰. Since 2005 these cards are mandatory for all oPt Palestinians wishing to receive entrance permits for working inside Israel³¹. The cards and permits are issued from an Israeli controlled population registry and the biometric system collects and stores the information of all applicants. Consequently, Israel obtains the biometric information of almost every Palestinian in the oPt above the age of 16³².

The Basel system was first installed in 2004 in Erez checkpoint, the main crossing point into Israel, at the northern end of the Gaza Strip³³. Photo No. 1 (below) was taken by the Israeli army at the Erez checkpoint. According to the Israeli Army bulletin, Bamahane, in 2010 the system was operated in 12 checkpoints in Gaza and the West Bank³⁴.

pass the Basel checkpoint, Globes, 5/09/04 (Hebrew), <http://bit.ly/x87NJc>. Accessed on Nov. 20, 2011.

30 Biometrics Applied to Protect Against Unauthorized Entry at Israeli Airport and at Palestinian Border Crossing, *Israel High-Tech & Investment Report*, Oct. 2003, <http://bit.ly/wnZ4C0>, accessed on Nov. 20, 2011.

31 Tawil-Souri, 2011: 78.

32 East Jerusalem: The Humanitarian Impact of the West Bank Barrier on Palestinian Communities, June 2007, OCHA, <http://bit.ly/zHCBX0>, p. 10, 12, accessed on Nov. 20, 2011; Elia Zureik, 2011. *Surveillance and Control in Israel/Palestine: Population, Territory and Power*, p. xv. Oxford: Taylor & Francis; Tawil-Souri, 2011: 77.

33 Israeli Police – Annual Report, 2005 (Hebrew), <http://bit.ly/xYEdAa>, p. 89. accessed on Nov. 20, 2011.

34 Roseman Nataniel, Biometric identification in Gaza and West Bank passes (Hebrew), *Bamahane, IDF website*, 18/2/10, <http://bit.ly/wOCZNH>, accessed on Nov. 20, 2011.



The Basel system in Erez checkpoint in Gaza, photographed by the Israeli army³⁵.

On July 13, 2011, Who profits from the occupation submitted an inquiry to the Israeli Ministry of Defense according to the freedom of information act regarding the Basel system. The ministry of defense's response³⁶, received by Who Profits on September 12, 2011, confirms that HP is contracted by the ministry of defense to operate and maintain the Basel system until December 31, 2012. The ministry of defense declared that the system is installed in the following checkpoints: Jericho, Bethlehem³⁷, Jenin, Nablus, Tul Karem, Hebron, Abu Dis, Tarkumia and the Efraim gate³⁸.

Bethlehem checkpoint is described by the activists of Machsom Watch as a modern technological passage made mainly for tourists, who enter showing a passport. The Palestinians however, are required to pass a physical check before entering the documentation positions in which they present their hand for biometric checking and their obligated magnetic card³⁹. Photo No. 2 was taken by the Israeli army in Bethlehem checkpoint (Ma'avar Rachel).

35 Retrieved from the IDF website at: <http://bit.ly/wOCZNH>.

36 The Ministry of Defense's response is on file with the Coalition of Women for Peace.

37 Also called Ma'avar Rachel. This checkpoint separates the West Bank and occupied East Jerusalem.

38 Also called Irtach.

39 Machsom watch alert (Hebrew), <http://bit.ly/xVUVF5>, March 21, 2010, accessed on Nov. 20, 2011.



The Basel system in Bethlehem checkpoint, photographed by the Israeli army⁴⁰.

Observations by a Machsom Watch's activists from May 10 and 13, 2010 in Efraim Gate, indicates that a new identification system was installed, intended to replace the soldiers. Both of the reports describe a large crowd (over 150 people) standing in line behind a small metal carousel. The activists present in Efraim Gate on May 10, 2010, described the process of the system and validated their statement with pictures taken at the checkpoint (Photos No. 3-4). As described, every few minutes a green light in the carousel is lit, allowing a group of people to enter the lobby before the checking (Photo no. 3). The identification system conducts a simultaneous check of the hand and the magnetic card (Photo no. 4), which prolongs the checking process. People who are not identified by the system are not allowed in and left walking behind glass windows with no one to assist them (Photo no. 5)⁴¹.

⁴⁰ Retrieved from the IDF website at: http://dover.idf.il/IDF/News_Channels/bamahana/2010/08/06.htm.

⁴¹ Biometric Identification (Hebrew), *Machsom Watch reports*, May 2010, <http://bit.ly/x5aJ95>, accessed on Nov. 20, 2011



Efrayim Gate, May 10, 2010. Photo No. 1: The green light in the metal carousel. Photo No. 2: The identification system. Photo No. 3: No entry, no assistance. Photographed by Fathiya Akfa, Machsom Watch

The Israeli company OTI supplied the contactless smartcard technology for the Basel system⁴². OTI's chairman, president and CEO, Oded Bashan, claimed "the Basel project will allow secured and easy personal identification of people during border crossing while minimizing unnecessary contact and friction"⁴³. Reducing "friction", as Bashan put it, has become the new policy in checkpoints. The reduction in friction is achieved by designing the checkpoints in a manner which ensures that no physical contact is created between the people going through the checkpoints and the personnel checking them. The checkpoints are protected by advanced fencing systems, intrusion detection and electronic surveillance⁴⁴.

42 Secure Contactless Smart Card Solutions, *OTI website*, <http://bit.ly/A07C8y>, accessed on Nov. 20, 2011.

43 OTI smart ID cards, *Globes*, 2003.

44 Zureik, 2011: 31.

That policy is served better by privatized checkpoints which render a more industrial and less military image. As documented by Neve Gordon⁴⁵, the Israeli army withholds its involvement from areas in which human rights violations are being committed, such as checkpoints. The checkpoints have been undergoing a process of privatization⁴⁶, which aims to turn the newly constructed checkpoints into terminals that resemble international borders. By modernizing the checkpoints and relying heavily on technology, Israel hopes to project a humanized image of its treatment of Palestinians⁴⁷. It also tries to create its borders on the ground. Along with the privatization process, since 2008 the Israeli government has been undergoing a process of “civilizing”⁴⁸ the checkpoints by gradually transferring the responsibility for them to the Immigration and Population Authority in the Ministry of Interior⁴⁹.

However, this humanizing appearance also reflects the isolation and de-humanization processes taking place in the checkpoints. As Eilat Maoz pointed out in an article she wrote while positioned as a General Coordinator in the coalition of women for peace:

“In the new privatized terminals, the security procedures go through complete systemization and dehumanization. The process is carried out in corridors containing small rooms whose walls are made of unidirectional glass. A security officer stands behind the glass and calls the ‘examinee’ into the first room over a microphone. After the ‘examinees’ are told to leave their personal belongings in the first room and to leave the room, the door has been locked behind them and the security officer appear and go through their things. Once he has left, the ‘examinees’ are then again called (over the microphone) to move on to the next room in the corridor, where they are told to drop their magnetic cards into a bowl and pass it through a small window to the computerized screening station”⁵⁰.

45 Neve Gordon, 2002. Out Sourcing Violations: The Israeli Case. *Journal of Human Rights*, 1 (3): 321-337.

46 Eilat Maoz, The Privatization of the Checkpoints and the Late Occupation, *Who Profits*, http://www.whoprofits.org/Article%20Data.php?doc_id=705.

47 Zureik, 2011: 31.

48 The Hebrew term (“אזרחי”) used by the government stems from the word “civilian”, not “civilization”.

49 Transferring responsibility for border passes from the Police to the Authority of population and immigration (Hebrew), *Ministry of Interior spokesperson announcement*, January, 2011, <http://bit.ly/yDntwz>, accessed on Nov. 20, 2011.

50 Maoz, *Who Profits*.

Stratified Identities: the new ID cards system

HP has a major part in the Israeli ID system, which is used to privilege Jews and differentiate between all others. Other than supplying Magnetic ID cards to the Palestinians from the oPt, who are also a part of the Israeli ID system – since 2008 HP has been manufacturing new biometric ID cards for the citizens and residents of Israel⁵¹. These include the Palestinian citizens of Israel and Palestinian residents of East Jerusalem. In 2008 the company also won an 8 million NIS a year tender to systemize the biometric and photographic data and install it in the offices of the Population Authority that would issue the IDs⁵².

The Israeli ID system stems from a strategy of stratified citizenship. The Israeli authorities issue different ID cards for different citizens and non-citizens, either directly through the Ministry of Interior or through the PA apparatus⁵³. The Israeli ID cards can be grossly categorized by the color of their plastic casing: blue for Israeli citizens and permanent residents, orange/green for Palestinians in the oPt.

The orange/green ID cards were issued after 1967 to all Palestinians in

51 Israel's citizens new smart ID is on its way (Hebrew), *The Israeli government website*, 1/12/2008.

52 Computerized photograph and biometric data reception tender no. 18/2008 (Hebrew), <http://bit.ly/xg37Fn>, accessed on Nov. 20, 2011.

53 Tawil-Souri, 2011: 71-76.

the oPt. As of 2007, an estimated 1.98 million Palestinians were eligible for West Bank ID cards⁵⁴. Those cards state religion, marital status, but contain no information about citizenship. Palestinians with orange/green ID cards are required to carry a permit in order to enter Israel (including the annexed areas of East Jerusalem). Only a small fraction of the Palestinians who apply for such permits is granted them. The permits, which are issued only for specific needs, specify the length of stay, the duration of the permit and the checkpoints the person can cross. Permits are often confiscated or cancelled without notice and the denial of a permit is rarely explained. In order to obtain a permit, Palestinians need to be approved by the Israeli General Security Services (the “Shabak”, or “Shin Bet”). Since 2005, Palestinians who wish to receive a permit must issue a biometric magnetic card⁵⁵.

Blue ID cards are issued to all Jewish native Israelis and Jewish immigrants to Israel. Blue IDs were also issued to about 165,000 Palestinians who remained within Israel during the Nakba (“1948 Palestinians”), while millions of Palestinian refugees had been expelled or fled in 1948⁵⁶. In 2011, 1,575,300 Palestinians hold an Israeli blue ID⁵⁷, which grants them certain rights while denying them of others and subjects them to a system meant to differentiate them⁵⁸. Until 2003, the blue IDs included the label of “nationality”, under which Israeli citizens were listed as Jewish, Arab, Druze, Bedouin, etc⁵⁹. In 2003, the nationality label was replaced with asterisks. However, the ethnicity is still listed in the population registry⁶⁰ and additional notations enable distinguishing between Jewish and non-Jewish Israeli identification card holders (e.g. whether the name of the paternal grandfather is included, and the prefix of the identity number). Blue ID cards are also held by approximately 300,000 Palestinians from East Jerusalem⁶¹. These cards specify the birthplace as “East Jerusalem”

54 OCHA, 2007, 10.

55 OCHA, 2007: 10, 12; Tawil-Souri, 2011: 77-78; Zureik, 2011, xv.

56 Tawil-Souri, 2011: 71-73

57 Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics (ICBS), 2011, <http://bit.ly/zqfTrq>, accessed on Nov. 23, 2011.

58 Read more at the websites of: Adalah - The Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel: <http://www.adalah.org/eng/>; Mossawa - The advocacy center for Arab citizens in Israel: <http://www.mossawacenter.org/default.php?lng=3>

59 Tawil-Souri, 2011: 71-73

60 The Israeli population registry law, 1965 (Hebrew), <http://bit.ly/z2M1B>, accessed on Nov. 20, 2011.

61 According to the Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics, in 2010 there were 283,900 Palestinians within the municipality of Jerusalem. According to the Jerusalem Institute for Israel Studies, *Jerusalem: Facts and Trends*, 2009/2010, p. 11 (<http://bit.ly/zmQLLr>), 98% of the Palestinians of Jerusalem live in East Jerusalem. Based on that, it can be estimated that the number of Palestinians residing in East Jerusalem was approximately 280,000 in 2010. Recent publications suggest that the actual number of Palestinians living in East Jerusalem reaches about 300,000, the vast majority of them hold blue ID cards (No home, no homeland: A new normative framework for examining the practice of administrative Home demolitions in East Jerusalem, September 2011, pp. 2-14. *ICAHD*, Accessible at: <http://www.icahd.org/?p=7845>).

but do not specify citizenship. That is because the Palestinians in East Jerusalem are not citizens of Israel. Upon the occupation and annexation of the land now referred to as East Jerusalem, most of the Palestinians chose not to become citizens of the occupying power, as is their right under international law. Instead, they obtained residency status identical to that of foreigners who hold permanent residency status in Israel, which is revocable if they cannot prove constant presence in Israel (including occupied East Jerusalem). Today citizenship is still technically available to East Jerusalemite Palestinians, but severe restrictions render it extremely difficult to obtain. Israeli authorities continuously try to restrict the number of Palestinian residents of East Jerusalem. Since 1967 Israel revoked the residency of over 14,000 Palestinians, more than half of them since 2006. In 2006 alone, over 1,360 East Jerusalem ID cards were revoked from East Jerusalemites residing outside of Jerusalem for seven years or more. Since 1982, the Israeli Ministry of Interior only grants residency to a newborn, both of whose parents hold East Jerusalem IDs⁶².

In 2008, HP signed a 270 million NIS contract with the Ministry of Interior for producing and manufacturing 5 million biometric ID cards and magnetic cards containing a chip encoded with personal details and biometric data for the Israeli Population Authority⁶³. This contract was not reached easily. It precedes a complicated process of seven long years in which two public tenders were published and annulled. The first tender (Telem tender no. 81/2001) for the biometric ID cards was published On December 31st, 2001 by the Israeli Ministry of Interior. 10 out of the eleven offers submitted to the tender were declined for failing to comply with the mandatory prerequisites. HP's offer was the only one that fulfilled the requirements and it won the contract. The tender was then annulled by the District Court in Jerusalem after EDS (an independent company at the time), IBM and Be'ery Print, which lost the tender, filed administrative petitions against the Ministry of Interior and HP, claiming misconduct by the tender committee. The court annulled the tender and stated that its execution prevented a fair competition and harmed the public's trust in the process⁶⁴.

In August 2005, The Ministry of Interior published a new tender (Telem tender no. 40/2005) for the biometric ID cards. Out of 27 companies, only two offers were submitted: one by a consortium headed by HP (together with the French company Jemalto, the Belgian Zetes and the Israeli Pitkit) and the other by Be'ery Print with CSSquare. Once again, the only

62 No home, no homeland, September 2011, pp. 2-14; OCHA, 2007: 10-11.

63 Israel's citizens new smart ID is on its way, The Israeli government website, 1/12/2008 (Hebrew).

64 EDS Israel v The state of Israel – the Ministry of interior, 2003, District Court (Hebrew), p 3117.

company that complied with the tenders' preconditions was HP⁶⁵. At that time, the Ministry of Finance withdrew from the tender committee, stating it would not collaborate with the tender process in which only HP can win⁶⁶. The second tender was annulled by the Ministry of Interior after realizing that HP's price offer was 50% higher than the estimated price of the tender⁶⁷.

In November 2007, HP Global expressed its discontent with the annulment of the tender and tried to pressure the government in the matter through the State Controller and the US ambassador to Israel⁶⁸. On December 26th, 2007, HP filed an appeal against the decision to annul the tender⁶⁹, but withdrew it after reaching an agreement with the state. The exemption committee of the Ministry of Finance authorized the Ministry of Interior to conduct exclusive negotiation with HP⁷⁰ and on December 1, 2008, the contract with HP was signed⁷¹.

The production of the ID cards was accelerated after the Israeli Knesset passed the Biometric Database Law to include biometric identification and biometric identification data in identification documents and on a database On December 15, 2009⁷². The bill, first submitted on October 27, 2008, was ratified in a late-night Knesset session, while excluding the media from the discussions⁷³. According to the Biometric Database Law, every citizen or resident of Israel will be required to provide fingerprints and facial recognition data that will be stored on a national database accessible to security officials. Since the law has raised concerns about infringement of civil liberties, identity theft and privacy invasion, a pilot of two years was set in order to examine the implementation of the law. When it ends, refusal to provide biometric identification will be punishable by a prison term of up to a year⁷⁴.

65 Beery print v The state of Israel – the Ministry of interior, 2008, District Court (Hebrew), p. 287.

66 Nurit Paltar, The smart IDs: an Eight years omission (Hebrew), *ynet*, 20/11/07, <http://bit.ly/xsLFQ1>, accessed on Nov. 20, 2011.

67 Beery print v The state of Israel – the Ministry of interior, 2008 (Hebrew); The smart ID tender was cancelled: The Ministry of Interior turns to a new pricing procedure (Hebrew), *Globes*, <http://bit.ly/x1vMvB>, 19/11/2007, accessed on Nov. 20, 2011.

68 HP v the state of Israel: the US ambassador filed a complaint to Olmert about the smart IDs tender (Hebrew), *Globes*, 16/12/07, <http://bit.ly/yqj91V>, accessed on Nov. 20, 2011.

69 HP Israel v The Ministry of Interior – the tenders committee, 2007, District Court (Hebrew).

70 Beery print v The state of Israel – the Ministry of interior, 2008, District Court (Hebrew).

71 Israel's citizens new smart ID is on its way, The Israeli government website, 1/12/2008 (Hebrew).

72 The Law of including biometric identification, 2009 (Hebrew), Law book, p. 256.

73 Knesset panel approves new rules to implement biometric database, Jonathan Lis, *TheMarker*, 3/06/11, <http://bit.ly/z5D4CF>, accessed on Nov. 20, 2011.

74 Knesset Approves Biometric Database, January 2010, *Israel High-Tech & Investment Report*. Retrieved on Nov. 20, 2011, from: <http://www.ishitech.co.il/0110ar4.htm>.

Smart occupation: HP's contracts with the Israeli army

Since the summer of 2006, HP has been administrating, operating and maintaining the Israeli Navy's IT infrastructure⁷⁵. Not long after that, the naval blockade on Gaza came into effect, as a part of a land, air and sea blockade imposed on the Gaza strip by Israel since the Hamas takeover of Gaza in June 2007. This on-going blockade has devastated the already dilapidated economy in Gaza, preventing all exports or imports and even preventing fishermen from fishing within Gaza's territorial waters⁷⁶. Approximately 85% of Gaza's fishing waters are totally or partially inaccessible due to Israeli military measures⁷⁷.

Since early 2009 the Israeli Navy has been turning back humanitarian aid vessels bound for the Gaza port, at times using excessive force to

75 HP Israel wins navy IT outsourcing contract, *Globes*, 14/8/06; Israel Information Technology Report, 24/7/08.

76 The siege on the Gaza Strip, May 31, 2010, *B'tselem*, <http://bit.ly/92G8WT>.

77 How can Israel's blockade of Gaza be legal? – UN independent experts on the "Palmer Report", September 13, 2011, *UN News Release*, <http://bit.ly/u8W5JR>, accessed on Nov. 20, 2011. See Video reports about the situation of Gaza fishermen: Israeli blockade hurts Gaza fishermen, AFP, August 2009, <http://bit.ly/aYd4T>; Gaza fishermen protest naval blockade, May 26, 2011, Ashraf Shannon, Press TV, Gaza, <http://bit.ly/w1W52X>.

take over these ships. The attack on the aid vessel Mavi Marmara in May 31st, 2010 killed nine international peace activists and aid workers, and injured dozens⁷⁸. The IT infrastructure HP provided to the Israeli navy is estimated in several millions of NIS⁷⁹.

Following the tragic results of the flotilla raid, Israel announced it would take measures to ease the Gaza blockade⁸⁰. However, the Israeli NGO Gisha Legal Center for Freedom of Movement asserted on July 2010 that Israel continued to prevent normal functioning of the Gazan economy⁸¹. In January and February 2011, OCHA conducted an assessment of the humanitarian impact of the measures taken to ease the Gaza blockade. According to OCHA, the partial lifting of import restrictions did increase the availability of consumer goods and some raw materials, but it did not improve people's livelihoods. OCHA also concluded there was no change in the access of the people of Gaza to the outside world, including to other areas of the oPt. Israel continues to grant exit permits only on an exceptional basis⁸².

The legality of the naval blockade on Gaza is heavily disputed. A UN Panel of Inquiry on the flotilla raid published the so called "Palmer Report" on September 2011. The report concluded that Israel used excessive force and should have waited to enforce the blockade closer to the shoreline. In addition, the report concluded the naval blockade on Gaza is legal according to international law⁸³. On September 2011, a panel of five independent UN rights experts reporting to the UN Human Rights Council disputed the Palmer report's conclusion. They claimed that "As a result of more than four years of Israeli blockade, 1.6 million Palestinian women, men and children are deprived of their fundamental human rights and subjected to collective punishment, in flagrant contravention of international human rights and humanitarian law"⁸⁴.

The IT infrastructure provided by HP to the Israeli navy was used by the Israeli military as a pilot for implementing the same system to the entire army, which manifested in the 15 million USD "virtualization project"

78 B'tselem, The siege on the Gaza Strip, May 31, 2010; Deaths as Israeli Forces Storm Gaza Aid Ship, May 31, 2010, *BBC News*. Retrieved on Nov. 20, 2011 from: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/10195838>.

79 Raviv Haim, HP Israel supplemented life circle management system (Hebrew), *The com*, 04/10/2010. Retrieved on Nov. 20, 2011, from: <http://www.thecom.co.il/article.php?id=13789>.

80 Easing the blockade: Assessing the humanitarian impact on the population of the Gaza Strip, Special focus, March 2011, OCHA, <http://bit.ly/gbmHnB>, p. 2, accessed on Nov. 20, 2011.

81 Unraveling the closure of Gaza: What has and hasn't changed since the Cabinet decision and what are the implications?, Gisha Information sheet, July 7, 2010, <http://bit.ly/yJ0E5p>, accessed on November 20, 2011.

82 Easing the blockade, OCHA, p. 2.

83 Report of the Secretary-General's Panel of Inquiry on the 31 May 2010 Flotilla Incident, September 2011, *UN*, <http://bit.ly/o15R9H>, accessed on Nov. 20, 2011.

84 How can Israel's blockade of Gaza be legal?, September 13, 2011, *UN News Release*.

contract won by HP in 2009. In this multi-annual project HP would provide the entire Israeli Army with IT infrastructure. In the same year, HP Global won another contract to supply all computer equipment to the Israeli military⁸⁵. Additionally, since January 2011, HP provides the Israeli Army's secret IT unit with CMDB (Configuration Management Database), for several million NIS⁸⁶. Since May 2011, HP has been providing the Israeli army with an ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) System estimated in hundreds of millions NIS⁸⁷. The total estimate of HP's contracts with the Israeli Army is unclear, since much of the published numbers are general estimations.

85 Or Hirshoga, HP won an IDF tender for personal computers (Hebrew), *The Marker*, 2/9/09, <http://bit.ly/30y6Ly>, accessed on Nov. 20, 2011.

86 Yossi Hatoni, Aman Group implemented HP's CMDB in an army IT unit in a project estimated in millions of NIS (Hebrew), 13/1/11. Retrieved on Nov. 20, 2011 from: <http://www.pc.co.il/?p=50601>.

87 Yossi Hatoni, Taldor, Adventech and HP won a tender to implement SAP ERP in the IDF; The scope: hundreds of millions of NIS (Hebrew), 3/5/11. Retrieved on Nov. 20, 2011 from: <http://www.pc.co.il/?p=59028>.

No boundaries: HP's activities in the Israeli settlements

121 official Israeli settlements and approximately 100 outposts⁸⁸ were built in the West Bank between 1967 and May 2010. In addition, during that period, Israel established 12 neighborhoods on land annexed to the Jerusalem Municipality after 1967. Under international law, these are considered settlements. The government also supported and assisted the establishment of several enclaves of settlers in the heart of Palestinian neighborhoods in East Jerusalem, among them the Muslim Quarter of the Old City, Silwan, Sheikh Jarrah, Mount of Olives, Ras al-Amud, Abu Dis, and Jabel Mukabber⁸⁹. Since 1993, when the Oslo process began, the entire settler population, including those in East Jerusalem, has grown in more than 50%⁹⁰. By the end of 2010, approximately 336,529 Israelis were living in illegal West Bank settlements and additional 192,000 were living in illegal settlements in East Jerusalem⁹¹.

Despite the commitments of the political-security cabinet on 25 November

88 Settlements established without official authorization, but with the support and assistance of the government.

89 By hook and by crook: Israeli Settlement Policy in the West Bank, *B'Tselem*, July 2010, p. 9, <http://bit.ly/yYp8dN>, accessed on Nov. 22, 2011.

90 Ibid: 15.

91 The number is based on a combination between the Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics List of Israeli towns, 2010 and Shalom Achshav list of settlements.

2009 to freeze all construction in the settlements for ten months - Israel has continued to build in existing settlements, to plan and establish new ones, to expropriate land for settlements and to grant exceptional incentives to Israeli citizens to move to settlements⁹². OCHA report from 2009 declared Israeli settlements as the most important factor driving the restriction on the freedom of movement of Palestinians in the West Bank and East Jerusalem through physical obstacles and administrative and legal measures⁹³.

HP is providing services and technologies to two of the biggest Israeli settlements in the West Bank: Modi'in Ilit and Ariel. Two of the companies which provide technological services to HP, Matrix⁹⁴ and its subsidiary Tact Testware⁹⁵, are located in the illegal settlement Modi'in Ilit⁹⁶. Since 1992, Matrix has been distributing HP computers, servers and virtualization solutions. Matrix's personnel were trained by HP to provide software and services⁹⁷. Tact testware provides HP with licenses and services in the field of testing and automatization⁹⁸.

Modi'in Ilit (formerly Kiryat Sefer) is the biggest settlement in the West Bank with a population of 48,639 (as of the end of 2010)⁹⁹. Modi'in Ilit was founded on confiscated private land taken from five Palestinian villages: Ni'lin, Harbatha, Saffa, Dir Qadis and Bil'in¹⁰⁰. The construction of the Separation Wall confiscated approximately half of the remaining lands of Bil'in village¹⁰¹. In 2007, the Israeli Supreme Court ruled that the route of the wall should be adjusted following a petition filled by Bil'in village. The new route gave back almost a quarter of Bili'in's lands (about 700 Dunams), while 1,500 dunams remained on the western side of the wall¹⁰². The court

92 By hook and by crook, *B'Tselem*, July 2010, p. 18.

93 West Bank movement and access update, *OCHA*, May 23, 2009, <http://bit.ly/zQjmdp>, accessed on Nov. 22, 2011.

94 Matrix's homepage indicates HP as its technological partner.

95 Subsidiary companies page on Matrix's website, <http://bit.ly/z61tGs>, accessed on Nov. 20, 2011.

96 The Modi'in Ilit address is not indicated in Matrix's website, only in official documents of the company and in the Israeli companies registrar. It is also accessible in the D&B directory (Hebrew). Tact testware's Modi'in Ilit address is registered in the company's website.

97 Matrix information about the cooperation with HP; Matrix global webpage, indicating HP as its technological partner, <http://bit.ly/Tv72On>, accessed on Nov. 20, 2011.

98 HP's partnership with Tact testware indicated in HP's official site.

99 The Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics List of Israeli towns, 2010, accessible at: <http://bit.ly/ydmq0K>.

100 The wall in Bil'in and Modi'in Ilit's extension to the east, Nir Shalev, Hagada Hasmatit, September 11, 2005 (Hebrew), <http://bit.ly/AdJv2u>, accessed on July 21, 2011.

101 Ahmad Issa Abdalla Yasin, Head of Bil'in village council v the Israeli government and others, Supreme Court, 2005 (Hebrew), <http://bit.ly/zxQ15l>, accessed on Nov. 22, 2011. For more information about Bil'in and land confiscation, see: <http://www.bilin-village.org/index.htm>.

102 Ahmad Issa Abdalla Yasin, Head of Bil'in village council v the Israeli government and others (Hebrew); The Separation Barrier, *B'Tselem*. Retrieved on Nov. 22, 2011 from: http://www.btselem.org/separation_barrier/map.

accepted the petition after it had been proven that Bil'in's lands were confiscated to serve the expansion of Modiin Ilit and not to answer Israeli security needs¹⁰³.

Modi'in Ilit is being constantly developed and expanded¹⁰⁴. From 2001 to 2009, the built area of the settlement has expanded by 78%¹⁰⁵. In March 6, 2008 Modi'in Ilit formally became a city, after the commander of the Israeli army in the oPt signed an order changing its status to a municipality¹⁰⁶. In a visit of the Minister of Interior to Matrix offices in Modi'in Ilit, the mayor praised Matrix for its substantial contribution to the settlement becoming to a city¹⁰⁷.

An official HP document from 2009 indicates that HP supplies a shared storage system to the municipality of the illegal settlement of Ariel in the West Bank. According to the document, "Ariel's rapid economic and population growth requires state-of-art information technology to manage financial resources, deliver services and conduct government business"¹⁰⁸. The document states that the system is a part of the Smart City program in Ariel¹⁰⁹. In 2005, the Israeli government chose the settlement of Ariel to be a pilot city for the government smart city program. The pilot included municipal wireless network system to deliver high-speed broadband wireless access and wireless services to residents and municipal employees. The program has been expanded to other cities in Israel and is still expanding as to 2011¹¹⁰.

Ariel, one of the largest settlements in the West Bank, both in population and area¹¹¹, was established by the Israeli government in October 1977

103 Head of Bil'in village council v the Israeli government and others, 2005 (Hebrew); B'Tselem letter to the minister of Interior, November 4, 2005 (Hebrew), <http://bit.ly/zkGwt3>, accessed on Nov. 21, 2011; Documents reveal W. Bank settlement Modi'in Ilit built illegally, Akiva Eldar, Haaretz, January 3, 2006, <http://bit.ly/gkEZ22>, accessed on Nov. 21, 2011.

104 B'Tselem letter to the minister of Interior, November 4, 2005 (Hebrew); The great laundering of the settlement: Matiyahu east authorized (Hebrew), *Haaretz*, 2005, <http://bit.ly/w1y3lY>, accessed on Nov. 21, 2011.

105 By hook and by crook: Israeli Settlement Policy in the West Bank, B'Tselem, July 2010, p. 11-12.

106 Earlboym Elhanan v Kiryat Sefer (Modi'in Housing) Inc. (Hebrew), Jan. 2011, District court of Jerusalem, <http://bit.ly/zmlOGF>, p. 5. accessed on Nov. 23, 2011; Modi'in Ilit is written as a city in the municipal local authorities profile of Israel, 2009, Publication No. 1451, <http://bit.ly/yFgShj>, accessed on Nov 20, 2011; In spite of the harsh criticism: Modi'in Ilit turned into a city (Hebrew), *Ha'aretz*, May 6, 2008, <http://bit.ly/y0ZHCr>, accessed on Nov. 22, 2011.

107 The Minister of Interior visited Matrix Global during the celebration of Modi'in Ilit becoming a city (Hebrew), economist, July 23, 2008, <http://bit.ly/yiyJRO>, accessed on Nov. 21, 2011.

108 Ariel builds strong, new municipal storage network on HP StorageWorks All-in-One Storage System.

109 Ibid.

110 Smart City project, Available governance report, 2011 (Hebrew), <http://bit.ly/yMZx22>, accessed on Nov. 20, 2011.

111 Land Grab: Israel's Settlement Policy in the West Bank, May 2002, B'tselem, <http://bit.ly/weoTqg>, p. 117-118. Accessed on Nov. 23, 2011.

as Heres (the name was later changed to Ariel)¹¹². Ariel's population in 2010 was 17,668¹¹³. Ariel was built in the natural development area of the adjacent Palestinian communities of Salfit, Haris, Kifl Haris, Qira, Marda, and Iskaka¹¹⁴. The settlement was declared a municipality in 1998, after its population increased significantly following the wave of immigration from the former Soviet Union in the early 1990s, when thousands of immigrants were directed by the government to Ariel. During the 1980s and 1990s, numerous official institutions opened in Ariel, including elementary and high schools, a municipal court, a police station and an academic college¹¹⁵, which became in 2010 an official University¹¹⁶. In 1996 an industrial zone was established in Ariel, alongside Barqan Industrial Zone¹¹⁷.

Ariel is situated half way between Nablus and Ramallah, surrounded on all sides by 12 Palestinian towns and villages¹¹⁸. The settlement is very close to the Palestinian communities, blocking their potential urban development¹¹⁹. As a result of Israel's policy, the borders of Ariel constitute a kind of physical barrier stopping a process of a contiguous urban space that could have developed through the expansion of Salfit to the north and northeast, connecting to the other villages¹²⁰, like the near Village Haris¹²¹, which lands were also confiscated for the construction of the separation wall¹²².

Research undertaken by B'Tselem shows that most of the land included in the area of jurisdiction of Ariel was declared and registered as state land over the years. While some of the land was formerly uncultivated land, Israel also expropriated land that was farmed by Palestinians, claiming it to be state land and included it within the area of jurisdiction of Ariel. In other cases, Israel seized control of cultivated land – which it acknowledged to be private Palestinian property – for expanding the network of roads connecting Ariel with Israel and other settlements. Land cultivated by Palestinians (mostly olive groves) exists within the settlement because Israel was unable to declare them state land. This

112 Ibid.

113 The Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics List of Israeli towns, 2010.

114 By hook and by crook: Israeli Settlement Policy in the West Bank, B'Tselem, July 2010, p. 52.

115 Land Grab: Israel's Settlement Policy in the West Bank, May 2002, B'tselem, p. 118.

116 Land Grab: Israel's Settlement Policy in the West Bank, May 2002, B'tselem, p. 118.

117 Land Grab: Israel's Settlement Policy in the West Bank, May 2002, B'tselem, p. 118.

118 Land Grab: Israel's Settlement Policy in the West Bank, May 2002, B'tselem, p. 117-118.

119 By hook and by crook: Israeli Settlement Policy in the West Bank, B'Tselem, July 2010, p. 52.

120 Land Grab: Israel's Settlement Policy in the West Bank, May 2002, B'tselem, p. 129.

121 Ibid, p. 117.

122 The Segregation Wall confiscates the majority of Haris Village Lands, January 4, 2007, Applied Research Institute – Jerusalem and Land Research Centre, <http://bit.ly/zfhuBU>, accessed on Nov. 23, 2011.

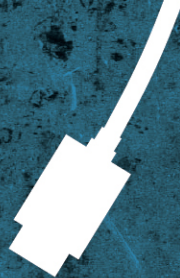
situation created “islands” of Palestinian ownership within Ariel, which surrounds the Palestinian lands on three sides. These Palestinian-owned islands will apparently be eliminated and effectively annexed to Ariel¹²³.

123 Land Grab: Israel's Settlement Policy in the West Bank, May 2002, B'tselem, p. 119-120.

Conclusions

HP is one of many international corporations profiting from the Israeli occupation. As shown in this document, HP is directly involved in the checkpoint system, a notorious part of the Israeli occupation connected to the separation wall, by providing the Ministry of Defense with the Basel system for biometric control of Palestinians from the oPt. The magnetic cards issued for the system to all Palestinians requesting to enter Israel are a part of another Israeli control mechanism, the ID system, which is built on stratified citizenship. HP is further involved in that system by manufacturing Israel's new biometric ID cards, which will be issued to the citizens and residence of Israel, including Palestinians. HP also provides services and equipment to the Israeli army, especially the Israeli navy, which is responsible for the naval blockade on Gaza and has initiated the raid on the Freedom flotilla in 2010. In addition, HP is a technological business partner of two companies located in the settlement of Modi'in Ilit and is providing services to the municipality of the settlement Ariel. That means that HP is contributing to the settlements industry, which is one of the biggest obstacles for development in the West Bank.

The settlements, the ID system, the checkpoints, the separation wall and the blockade on Gaza are all part of the Israeli system of occupation and control. Israel's various control mechanisms are created to maintain a mentality of surveillance and fear among Palestinians in Israel and in the oPt. These mechanisms suffocate Palestinian communities, fragment them and hinder the ability of Palestinians to live in well-being, in many cases leading to injuries or even death. The Israeli occupation is daily maintained by the industry fueling it, allowing it to develop and prosper, while firms like HP make a considerable profit.



Technologies of Control

3 Yegia Kapayim St., Tel Aviv, Israel | P.O.Box 29214, Tel Aviv 61292, Israel

Tel: 972-3-5281005 | E-mail: whoprofits@yahoo.com

www.whoprofits.org