

Resisting Demolitions in Palestine



A Corporate Occupation publication
in support of the BDS movement

2021 update

This book is dedicated to 24-year-old Harun Abu Aram, who was shot through the neck at close range by an Israeli soldier on 1 January 2021.

Harun had been trying to prevent the occupation forces from confiscating an electricity generator in his village of Ar-Rakeez in Yatta, South Hebron Hills. As villagers tried to rush Harun to hospital, a soldier shot another bullet through the car's tyre, preventing the vehicle from leaving.

Harun was left paralysed and fighting for his life in hospital.

Harun's own home had been demolished on 25 November 2020 in a wave of demolitions in the Yatta area which saw 17 people lose their homes in one day. The Israeli occupation used JCB and Caterpillar bulldozers to carry out the destruction.

Cover photo: A Palestinian woman confronts Israeli soldiers during a demonstration against home demolitions in Ar-Rakeez on 8 January, 2021, as protesters marched towards the Avigail outpost, one week after Harun was shot in the neck.
Photo by Keren Manor, Active Stills.

Resisting Demolitions in Palestine

2021 update

By Eliza Egret & Tom Anderson

Design by Eliza Egret
April 2021

This ebook is a Corporate Occupation project. Our aim is to track corporate complicity in Israeli colonisation, militarism and apartheid, and to provide information-for-action for grassroots activists to use in their campaigns.

Corporate Occupation is run by researchers from Shoal Collective, a cooperative which produces news articles, investigations, analysis and research as a contribution to, and a resource for, movements that are attempting to bring about social and political change.

Our research work has been supported by the Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions UK (ICAHD UK). ICAHD works to resist the occupation, with a focus on Israel's policy of demolishing Palestinian homes.

We are very grateful to our supporters, to ICAHD and to local Palestine Solidarity Campaign groups for providing us with funding to do this research, and to Active Stills for providing us with photographs. We are also thankful to people on the ground in Palestine, who constantly film and photograph bulldozers tearing down people's houses. Without their first-hand footage, this research project would not have been possible.

corporateoccupation.org
@CorpOcc
@ShoalCollective

ICAHD.org
@ICAHDUK

shoal radical writing
for a world beyond capitalism

 **ICAHD UK**
The Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions

We offer this ebook freely. However, if you would like to donate to our work, please follow [this link](#).

Introduction

In 2019, we published *Resisting Demolitions in Palestine*, a book outlining the Palestinian communities being targeted with Israeli demolitions, and the bulldozer companies complicit in making them homeless. We trawled through internet footage and photos of the previous year to identify which international companies had supplied the bulldozers and cranes used in each demolition or confiscation of a structure.

At the start of 2020, we produced more figures and published them on our website. And now in this 2021 update, we are once again presenting our findings in ebook format. For the third year in a row, we have collated statistics from every demolition, confiscation, destruction of water pipes or razing of land that Israeli forces have carried out. Our results show the **absolute minimum** number of demolitions that each bulldozer company's equipment was used in during 2020.

For a much more in-depth look at Israel's demolitions policies, as well as the companies complicit in making people homeless, we encourage you to go to corporateoccupation.org and download a copy of the first edition of *Resisting Demolitions in Palestine*, or [order a paperback copy](#).

Methodology

We compiled our data by painstakingly searching the internet for photo/video evidence of which type of bulldozer or crane was used for each demolition/razing of land/chopping down of trees listed in ICAHD's monthly Demolition & Displacement Reports.

For at least half of demolitions, we could not be 100% sure of the bulldozer used, and therefore these demolitions are not included in our final figures. This is because many news agencies and social media users upload stock photos or random photos of demolitions when reporting on a specific incident. If we were uncertain whether a photo was a stock photo, we did not include it in our results.

We used ICAHD's statistics to record the number of people displaced/affected in each incident, and then added them up to make a total. If ICAHD didn't record the number of people displaced or affected in an incident, we conservatively counted just one person as being affected.

We also recorded incidents that were not on ICAHD's list, such as the razing of people's land, the blocking of a road, and the destruction of fruit trees. If there was no reliable figure for the number of people affected, we conservatively estimated one person, even for a road closure that would affect whole villages. **The real number of people affected by each company's equipment is, in reality, much higher.**

You can view our spreadsheet breakdown of every single incident on corporateoccupation.org

Following page: A Palestinian man confronts Israeli soldiers during a demonstration against home demolitions in Ar-Rakeez on 8 January, 2021, as protesters marched towards the Avigail outpost, one week after Harun Abu Aram was shot in the neck. Photo by Keren Manor, Active Stills.

Part 1: the statistics

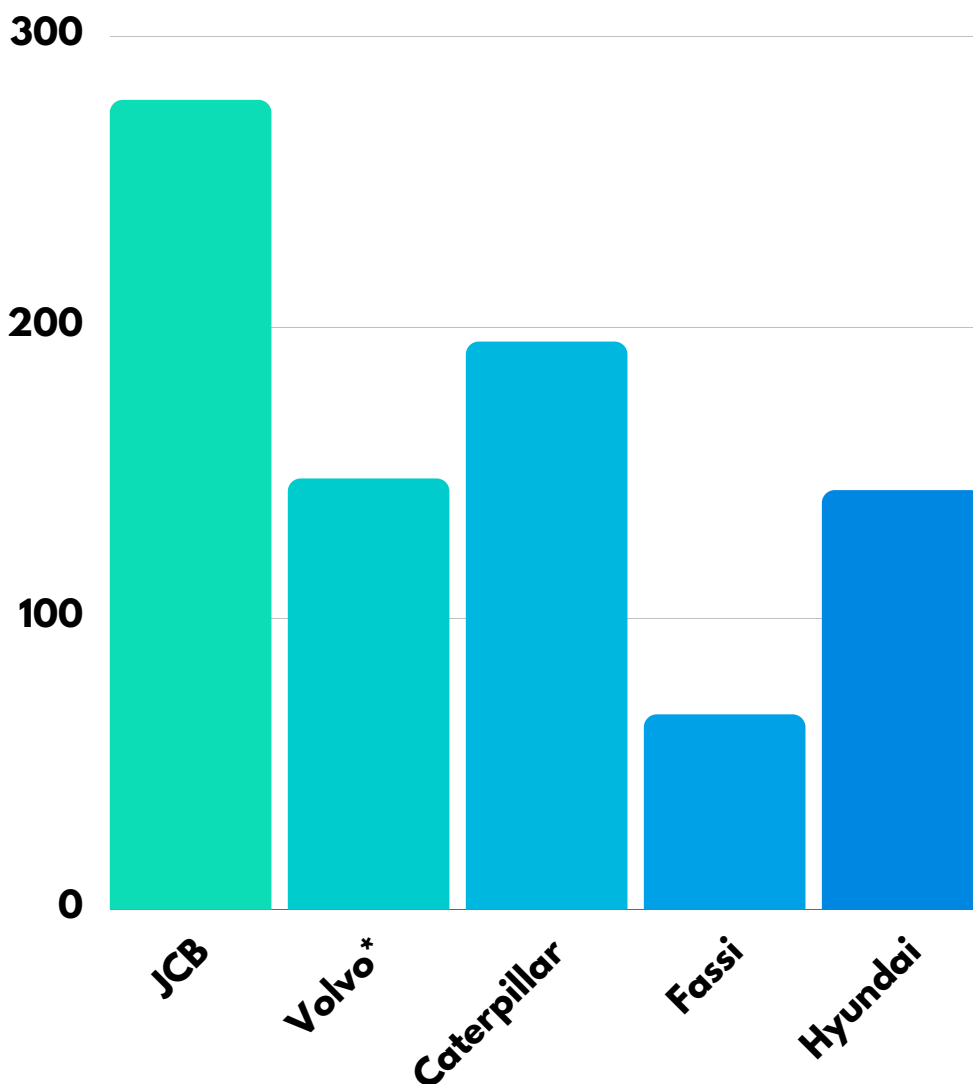


The statistics

We found that in 2020:

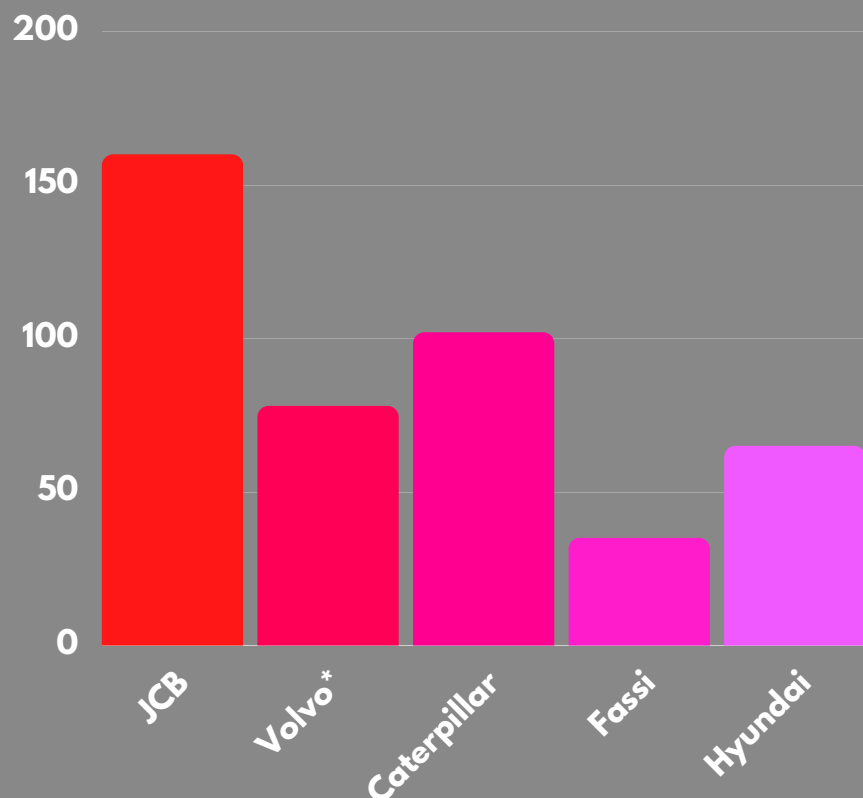
- the bulldozers that were used by Israeli forces to displace the most people overall were manufactured by JCB (UK), Caterpillar (US) and Volvo (Sweden).
- the company that was complicit in displacing the most children was JCB.
- the bulldozers that affected the most people overall were manufactured by Hidromek (Turkey) and JCB.

The bulldozers & cranes that made the most people homeless in 2020

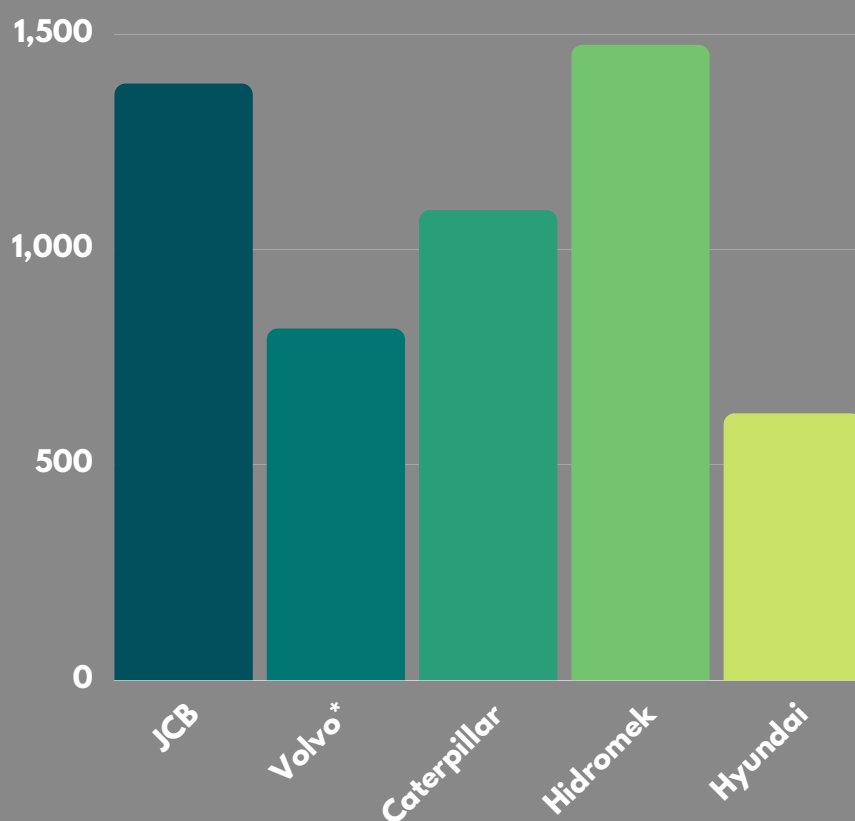


*Volvo's bulldozers were consistently used to destroy the village of Al-Araqib. There is no reliable figure of the number of residents in the village, so these demolitions are not included in the figures.

The bulldozers & cranes that made the most children homeless in 2020



The bulldozers that displaced or affected the most people in total in 2020



A full breakdown of our findings, showing the minimum number of Palestinian people that each company's equipment affected or made homeless in 2020

	Total displaced	Of the total displaced, how many were children?	Total affected (not including displaced)	Of the total affected, how many were children?	Total affected & displaced	Of the total affected & displaced, how many were children?
JCB (UK)	278	160	1,107	201	1,385	361
Volvo* (Sweden)	148	78	668	281	816	359
Hyundai (South Korea)	144	65	475	230	619	295
Lui Gong (China)	40	16	213	128	253	144
Caterpillar (US)	195	102	896	96	1,091	198
Doosan (South Korea)	33	18	41	21	74	39
CASE (UK)	0	0	18	6	18	6
Fassi (Italy)	67	35	463	136	530	171
Effer (Italy)	50	17	239	70	289	87
Hidromek (Turkey)	23	11	1,452	662	1,475	673
Bobcat (owned by Doosan)	2	0	6	0	8	0
TEREX (US)	0	0	1	0	1	0
GEHL (US)	0	0	1	0	1	0
Cormach (Italy)	0	0	4	2	4	2
Hitachi (Japan)	0	0	10	6	10	6

Part 2: the companies



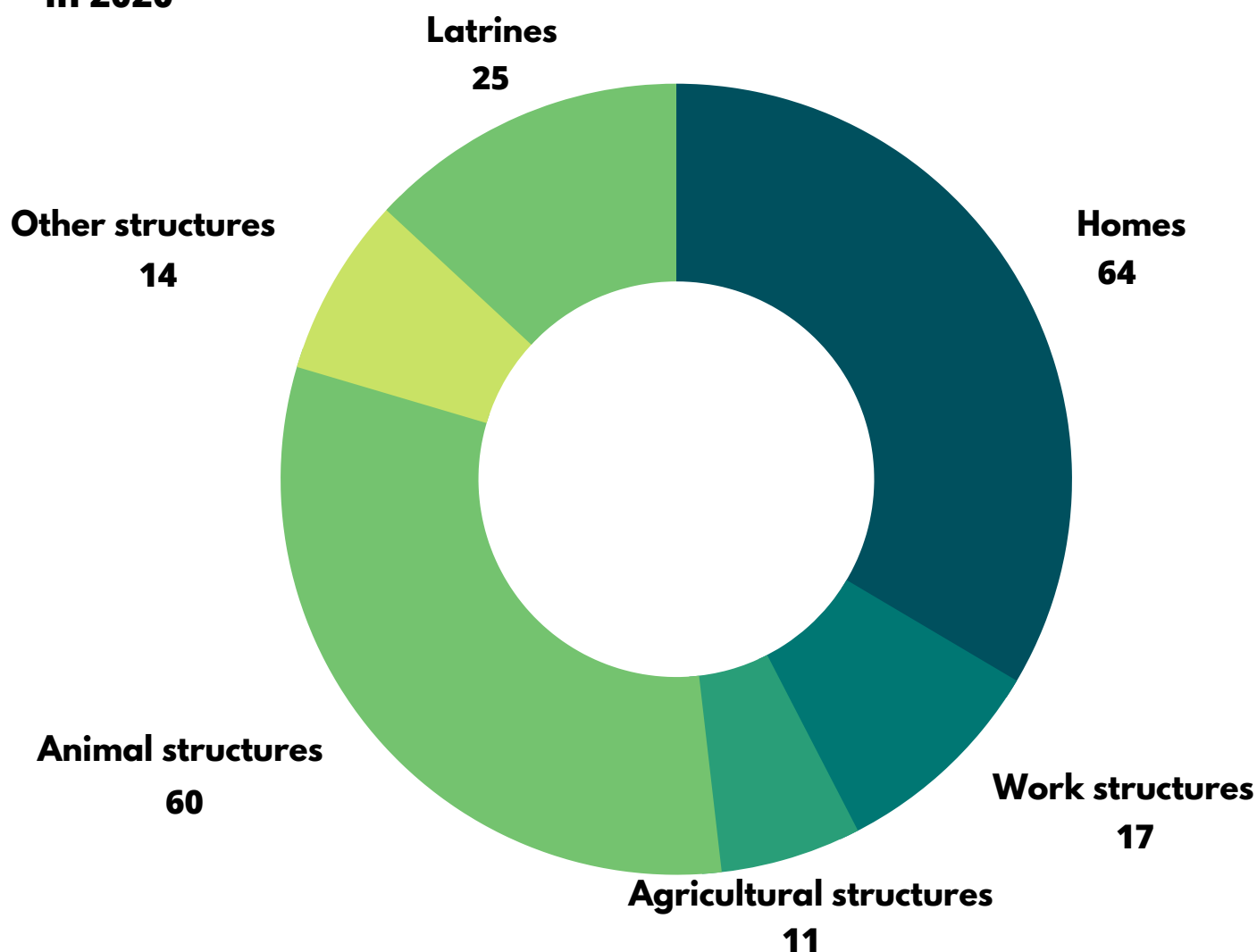


As in previous years, JCB bulldozers were very busy in Palestine in 2020. Our research found that British company JCB's machines:

- Affected at least 1,385 Palestinian people.
- Demolished at least 191 Palestinian structures, including 64 homes.
- Displaced at least 278 Palestinian people, making at least 160 children homeless.
- Destroyed at least 33 water tanks, cisterns, reservoirs or irrigation systems, including 3.7km of water pipes, cutting Palestinian villages off from the water sources that are needed in order to survive on their land.
- Dug up the graves of an old Muslim cemetery in Jaffa, so that the Israeli authorities could build a commercial space and homeless shelter.
- Demolished a staircase leading to Al-Aqsa mosque in Al-Quds (Jerusalem). Al-Aqsa is the third most holy site in the world for Muslims.
- Destroyed the whole village of Khirbet al-Humsa. The demolition was reportedly Israel's largest West Bank demolition in a decade.
- Uprooted Palestinian olive trees to build a settler bypass road. The apartheid road will uproot more than 2,800 olive trees in total and steal land from 7 Palestinian villages south of Nablus.
- Seized archaeological artefacts in the West Bank town of Beit Ummar.

Previous page: A JCB backhoe loader and a Fassi crane are used to carry out home demolitions and property confiscation in the Bedouin village of Wadi al-Ahmar, Jordan Valley, on 28 January 2021. Photo by Keren Manor, Active Stills.

A breakdown of the 191 structures demolished by JCB bulldozers in 2020



JCB's backhoe loader is the digger of choice in Israel's demolition of Palestinian homes. Similar to in 2019 and 2020, JCB machines were mostly used by Israel to carry out demolitions in vulnerable Area C communities like the Jordan Valley or the South Hebron Hills.

Area C covers a massive 60% of the West Bank. Israeli state policy is to stamp out Palestinian livelihoods and communities in Area C, and give the land to the expanding Israeli settlements. Palestinians are barred from building any new structures, and this is enforced by demolitions. On top of this, JCB bulldozers are often used in communities whose land has been designated by Israel as a military area or firing zone.

JCB bulldozers were, once again, used to destroy irrigation systems, water pipes and water tanks, cutting communities off from the water that is needed for survival.

Israel continues to use water as a weapon, and by allowing its bulldozers to be used in this way, JCB is complicit. The architects of the occupation hope that by strangling Palestinians of the very resource needed to sustain life, it will force people to leave their lands.

When trawling through footage and photos of demolitions carried out in 2020, we found evidence of what appeared to be new JCB wheel loaders being used. Israeli company Comasco is the sole supplier of JCB machines to the Israeli state, and it appears that its new machines have been used to demolish Palestinian homes. On top of this, Comasco has recently received brand new JCB backhoe loaders from the bulldozer company.

For more in-depth information about Areas A, B and C, and the communities affected by JCB's bulldozers, please download or order the 2019 edition of *Resisting Demolitions in Palestine*, and read our articles on *The Canary*.

Who owns JCB?



JCB is a private UK company owned by the Bamford family. Anthony Bamford and his family are listed at 27th in the *Sunday Times Rich List*, and are worth a massive £4.7 billion, up £550 million from the previous year.

Bamford is a Conservative Life Peer. He became Baron Bamford in 2013, and sits under his title in the House of Lords. He donated almost £4 million to the Conservatives in their 2019 election campaign, and also donated a six-figure sum to the 'Vote Leave' Brexit campaign in the run up to the referendum.

Boris Johnson has received hefty donations from JCB. The Bamfords have also made donations to Home Secretary and former Conservative Friends of Israel (CFI) vice-chairperson Priti Patel. Other Tory MPs, who have been on all expenses paid trips to Israel, have received donations from JCB.

Anthony Bamford is on the Board of the Centre for Policy Studies (CPS), a highly influential pressure group that was co-founded by Margaret Thatcher. Also on the CPS board is Zionist and former CFI deputy chair Michael Heller. His son, Andrew Heller, is the current Director at CFI.

As might be expected from a privileged Tory, Bamford opened a massive 240-acre golf course in Staffordshire in 2018 in order to drive business growth. The Bamfords also own various mansions, as well as their famous multi-million dollar super yacht.

JCB in the spotlight

The demolition of Palestinian homes and property is illegal under international law. In 2020, Volvo, Caterpillar and JCB were all named on a UN list of companies profiting from Israel's breaches of international law.

JCB is currently being investigated by a UK government body, which has found that a complaint against JCB by Lawyers for Palestinian Human Rights (LPHR) is “material and substantiated”. LPHR allege that JCB’s supply of construction equipment used in the demolition of Palestinian homes and property by Israeli forces is in breach of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development’s (OECD) guidelines on human rights.

According to LPHR, if its complaint is successful, then JCB may be expected to sever relationships with Israeli company Comasco, which distributes JCB machinery in Israel.

NSPCC: putting money before principles

While JCB profits from the bulldozing of communities in Palestine, it tries to rehabilitate its UK reputation by supporting the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC). The charity has accepted more than £5 million from JCB. Campaigners have sent more than 10,000 letters, emails and postcards to the charity, encouraging it to sever ties with JCB. But the charity refuses, saying:

"We take all concerns about donations seriously, especially when the well-being of children is involved, and have looked carefully and closely at this issue. We have concluded that JCB cannot be held responsible for what happens to equipment once it has been legally sold and resold.

Above all, as our guidance demands, we ask ourselves if a donation is in the best interests of the charity and at our last review, we decided it was."

The charity argues:

"National Contact Point [NCP] a Government arms-length body, has investigated JCB's involvement in their products being sold to Israel and found "the claims related to JCB contributing to abuses of human rights does not merit further examination"."

But this response doesn't tell the whole truth. JCB **is still being investigated** for knowingly supplying equipment that will be used in human rights violations. Campaigners argue that:

"A substantial part of the complaint [against JCB] is live and progressing... These are the relevant issues where the NCP accepts the complaint against JCB for further consideration: Companies are expected to:

"Seek ways to prevent or mitigate adverse human rights impacts that are directly linked to their business operations, products or services by a business relationship, even if they do not contribute to those impacts.

Have a policy commitment to respect human rights.

Carry out human rights due diligence as appropriate to their size, the nature and context of operations and the severity of the risks of adverse human rights impacts".

The NSPCC's unchanged stance is, perhaps, unsurprising, given that its CEO is Peter Wanless, a Tory favourite and ex-principal private secretary to Michael Portillo. Wanless was carefully chosen in 2014 by Theresa May - herself a staunch defender of Israel - to investigate Tory child sex abuse cover-up claims. Wanless currently sits on the Board of the National Leadership Centre, a Conservative government agency.

Conservative Friends of Israel has previously claimed that that a massive 80% of Tory MPs are members of the influential lobby group. With the head of NSPCC being a key Tory friend, and with the head of JCB being a key Tory donor, it is, perhaps, small wonder that neither the charity or the bulldozer company have so far budged in their stance on protecting Palestinian children.



Campaigners visit NSPCC's offices in London and JCB's World Logistics Headquarters in Staffordshire, April 2021. Photos by campaigners.



A campaign gathering momentum

Since we published our 2019 edition of *Resisting Demolitions in Palestine*, a UK campaign – focusing on both JCB and the NSPCC – has really gathered momentum. There have been a number of actions at JCB sites, including the blocking of factory entrances, as campaigners try to convince JCB to stop supplying Comasco with its bulldozers.

A coalition of groups carried out a day of action in March 2021. More than 10,000 letters, postcards and emails were sent to the NSPCC, asking the charity to stop accepting JCB's money. At the same time, demonstrations against JCB were held in cities across the UK.

In April 2021, activists took action again, visiting the JCB World Logistics headquarters. Also in April, campaigners visited NSPCC's offices in London and handed in a petition of 1,800 signatures, calling on the charity to sever ties with JCB.

For a more detailed history of the campaign against JCB, please download our first edition of *Resisting Demolitions in Palestine*, or get a paperback copy.

Take action

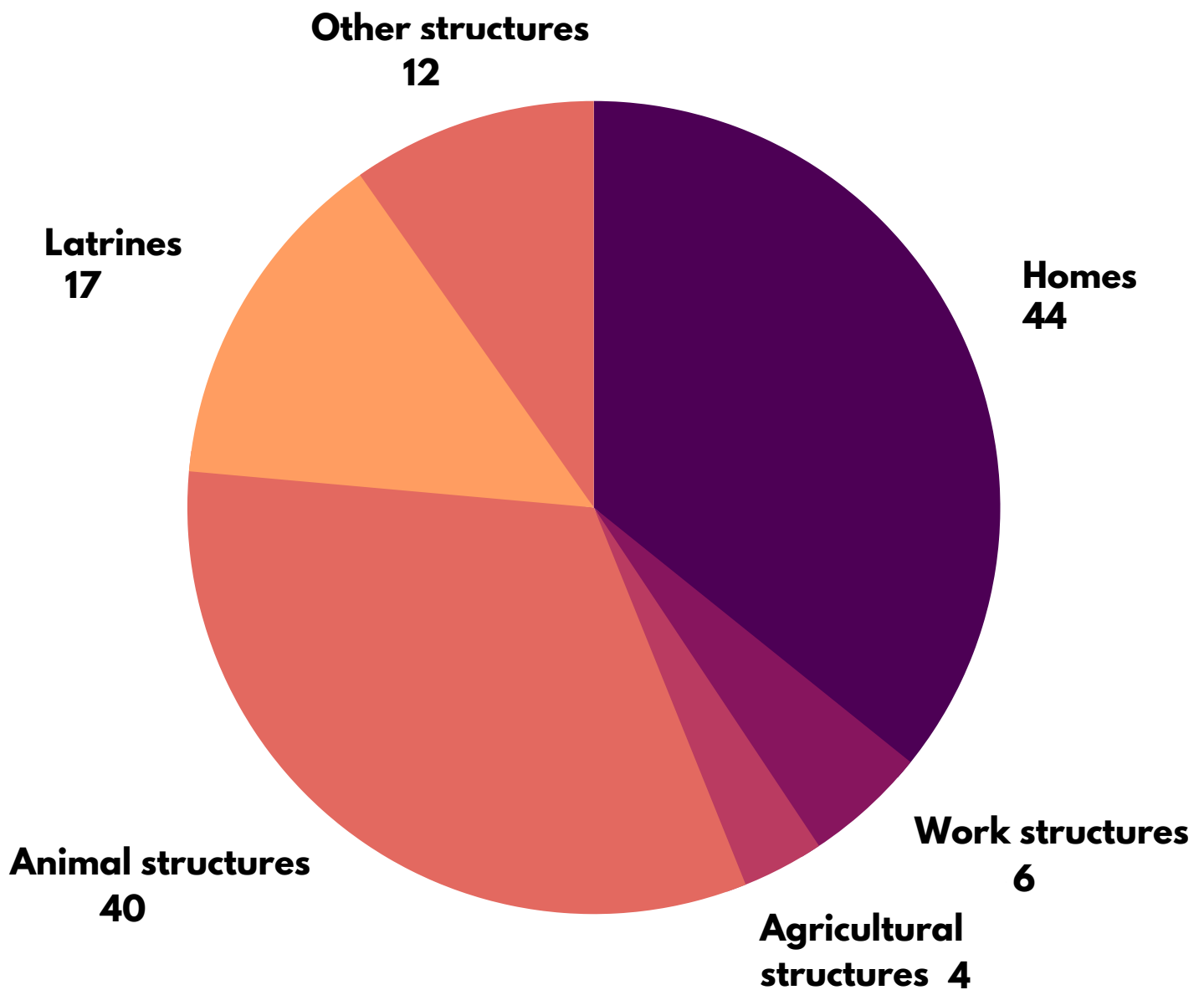
- **Protest and take direct action outside JCB's headquarters, factories and dealerships**, calling on the company to end its relationship with Israeli company Comasco, and ensure its machinery is not supplied to any Israeli organisation which will use it in the demolition of homes and property in Palestine, or for military purposes.
- **Contact JCB, telling them of your concerns about home demolitions in Palestine.** Write to the company at: J C Bamford Excavators Limited, Rocester, Staffordshire ST14 5JP.
Phone them: +44 800 083 8015 email them: <https://www.jcb.com/en-gb/about/contact-us>
- **Write to the NSPCC**, asking them to sever all connections to JCB and the Bamford family, and not to accept their donations.
- If your MP is sympathetic to the Palestinian cause, **request that they ask a parliamentary question** about JCB's continued involvement in home demolitions in Palestine.
- **Contact your local council** and ask them to ensure that council contractors do not use JCB equipment, because of JCB's involvement in war crimes.
- **Ask your local councillor to propose a council motion** to require contractors not to use JCB equipment.

Caterpillar

Our research found that in 2020 US company Caterpillar's machines:

- Affected at least 1,091 Palestinian people.
- Demolished at least 123 Palestinian structures, including 44 homes.
- Were used in at least three punitive demolitions of Palestinian homes. In one of these demolitions, the Israeli occupation forces shot and killed two Palestinian people and injured another nine.
- Displaced at least 195 Palestinian people, making at least 102 children homeless.
- Destroyed at least 34 water tanks, cisterns, reservoirs or irrigation systems, including 4.4km of water pipes, cutting Palestinian villages off from the water sources that are needed in order to survive on their land.
- Were used in the erection of an Israeli military tower in the South Hebron Hills.
- Dug up the graves of an old Muslim cemetery in Jaffa, so that the Israeli authorities could build a commercial space and homeless shelter.
- Participated in the destruction of the whole village of Khirbet al-Humsa. The demolition was reportedly Israel's largest West Bank demolition in a decade.
- Were used to raze land and make road blocks, preventing Palestinian access to land.
- Uprooted at least 100 date palm trees.

A breakdown of the 123 structures demolished by Caterpillar bulldozers in 2020



Caterpillar's bulldozers were used all over the West Bank in 2020. They were used in a range of different types of demolitions, from pulling up water pipes in Area C villages, to bulldozing large houses.

In our 2019 version of *Resisting Demolitions in Palestine*, we outlined Caterpillar's military bulldozers' history of terrorising people in both the West Bank and Gaza. 2020 was no exception: the company's military excavators were used in three punitive demolitions. During one demolition, on 6 February 2020, Israeli forces murdered two Palestinians, including 19-year-old Yazan Abu Tabikh, and injured another nine. Israel had placed trained snipers at the scene while demolishing the house.

In 2020, we produced a timeline, showing the number of people who were murdered or injured by the Israeli Occupation Forces, and where Caterpillar bulldozers were used. You can view the timeline [here](#).

Caterpillar bulldozers continue to be used by Israel as a weapon. The world watched in horror in February 2020, as 27-year-old Mohammed al-Naem was shot in Gaza, and then [dragged along the ground](#) with a Caterpillar bulldozer. He was then repeatedly stabbed by the bulldozer's blades. The soldier operating the bulldozer then hung his body from the blades.

On another occasion in 2020, a Caterpillar bulldozer was used to [push boulders](#) at high speed down a street towards protesters in the village of Kufr Qaddum, injuring two people, including a nine year old child.

Caterpillar: some quick facts

- US company Caterpillar is the world's best-known bulldozer giant, employing over 100,000 people.
- It is one of the most profitable companies in the world, and for 26 years it has made the [Fortune Global 500](#) list.
- Caterpillar didn't make as much revenue in 2020 as the previous year, making [\\$41.7 billion](#), down more than 20%.
- Caterpillar's Israeli representative is Israel Tractors and Equipment (part of Zoko Enterprises). Zoko is mostly owned by CP Holdings, which is headquartered in the UK.
- Caterpillar's UK representative is Finning. Finning's locations can be found here: https://www.finning.com/en_GB/contact/all-branches.html
- Caterpillar's UK factory and office locations can be found here: <https://www.caterpillar.com/en/company/global-footprint/eame/united-kingdom.html>
- Caterpillar's engines are manufactured by Perkins, a wholly owned subsidiary of Caterpillar.

Take action

There is a rich and creative history of campaigning against Caterpillar's involvement in Israel's home demolition policies. You can read about it in our [2019 edition](#) of this book.

During 2020, UK divestment campaigners [gained a victory](#) after Manchester University divested from Caterpillar. The divestment came after a long struggle at the university.

You can take action against Caterpillar by:

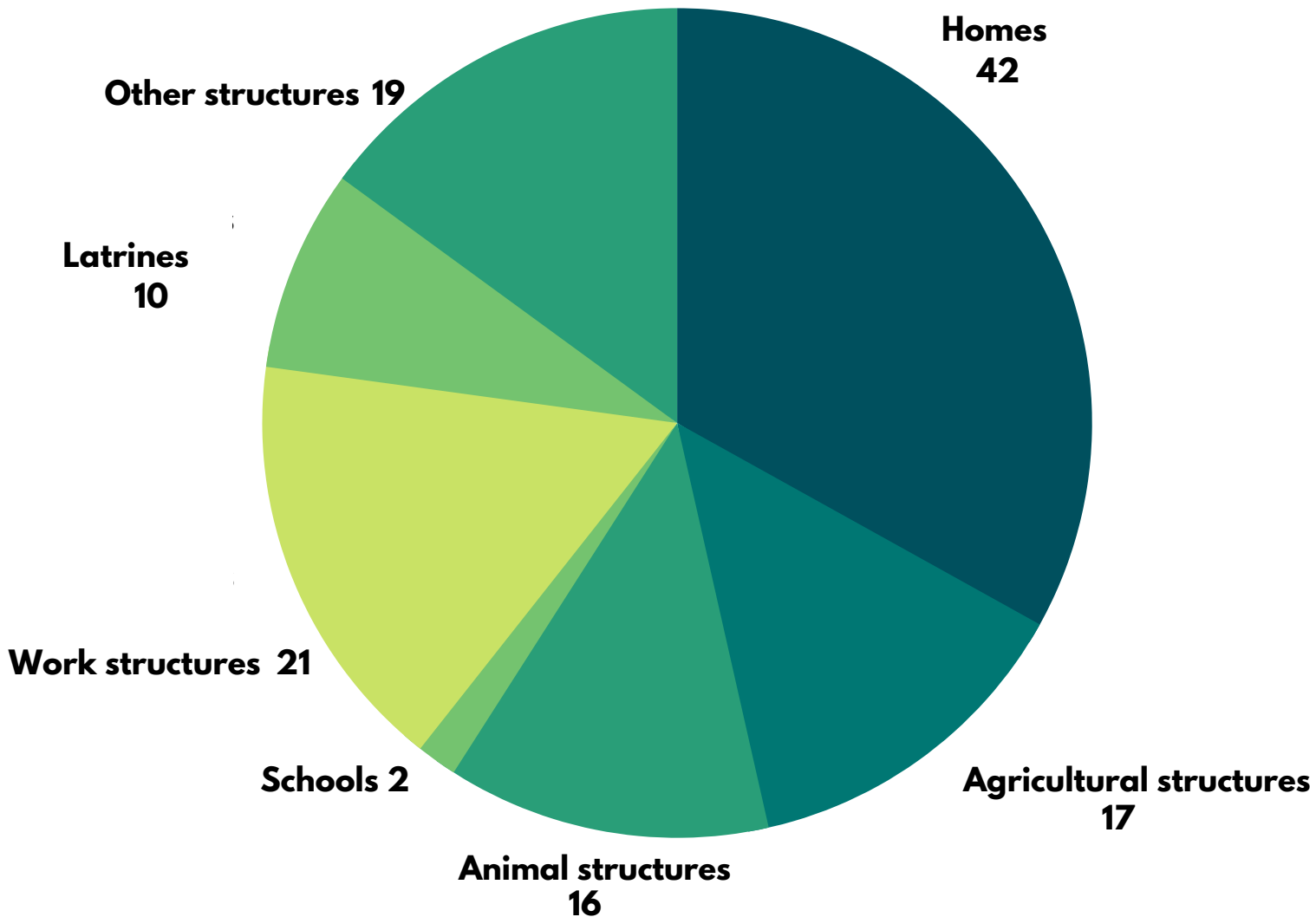
- Protesting outside Caterpillar's factories and Finning dealerships. Call on the company to stop supplying military bulldozers to Israel. Caterpillar must also end its relationship with Zoko, and ensure that its bulldozers are no longer used in Israel's home demolition policy, settlement building and wall building.
- Call for investors to divest from Caterpillar. Protest outside your local HSBC and Barclays banks, calling for them to drop their shares in Caterpillar.
- Check that your pension is not invested in a fund that invests in Caterpillar.
- Do a Freedom of Information (FOI) request to find out where your local authority pension scheme is invested.
- Persuade your local council or university to demand that their contractors do not use Caterpillar equipment.
- Demand that UK-based CP Holdings divests from Caterpillar.
- To find out if your university partners with or invests in Caterpillar, see the [Apartheid Off Campus](#) website or go to [Corporate Watch](#).



Our research found that in 2020 Swedish company Volvo's machines:

- Affected at least 816 Palestinian people.
- Demolished at least 127 Palestinian structures, including 42 homes.
- Displaced at least 148 Palestinian people, making at least 78 children homeless.
- These figures do not include the continuous demolitions of the entire Bedouin village of Al-Araqib. **Volvo's equipment was used to demolish the village at least 6 times in 2020.** However, because there is no available data on how many people live in the village, we have made a conservative count of one person as being displaced. The real number of people that Volvo equipment has displaced, and the real number of people displaced, are certainly much higher.
- Volvo equipment destroyed at least 11 water tanks, cisterns, reservoirs or irrigation systems, cutting Palestinian villages off from the water sources that are needed in order to survive on their land.
- Demolished 2 Palestinian schools, or parts of schools, in the South Hebron Hills.
- Uprooted at least 1,030 fruit trees.
- Destroyed 4 structures in the Jordan Valley at the end of March 2020 – just as the Coronavirus pandemic was hitting – that were being used as both a mosque and a field clinic.
- Razed at least 30 dunums of Palestinian land and were used to create at least one road block, preventing Palestinian access to land.
- Destroyed the toilets of a Muslim cemetery.

A breakdown of the 127 structures demolished by Volvo bulldozers in 2020 (not including the 6 demolitions of the entire village of Al-Araqib)



Volvo's bulldozers were, once again, used frequently in Bedouin and Area C communities, not just in the South Hebron Hills and the Jordan Valley, but also within the 1948 borders of Israel. But it is the use of Volvo's equipment in the demolition of the village of Al-Araqib that sets it apart from the other bulldozer companies.

In the West Bank, in two separate incidents, Volvo machines were used to destroy Palestinian school structures. Both incidents affected children in the South Hebron Hills.

For an in-depth profile on Volvo, and for ideas of how you can take action, please read our 2019 edition of *Resisting Demolitions in Palestine*.

Hyundai

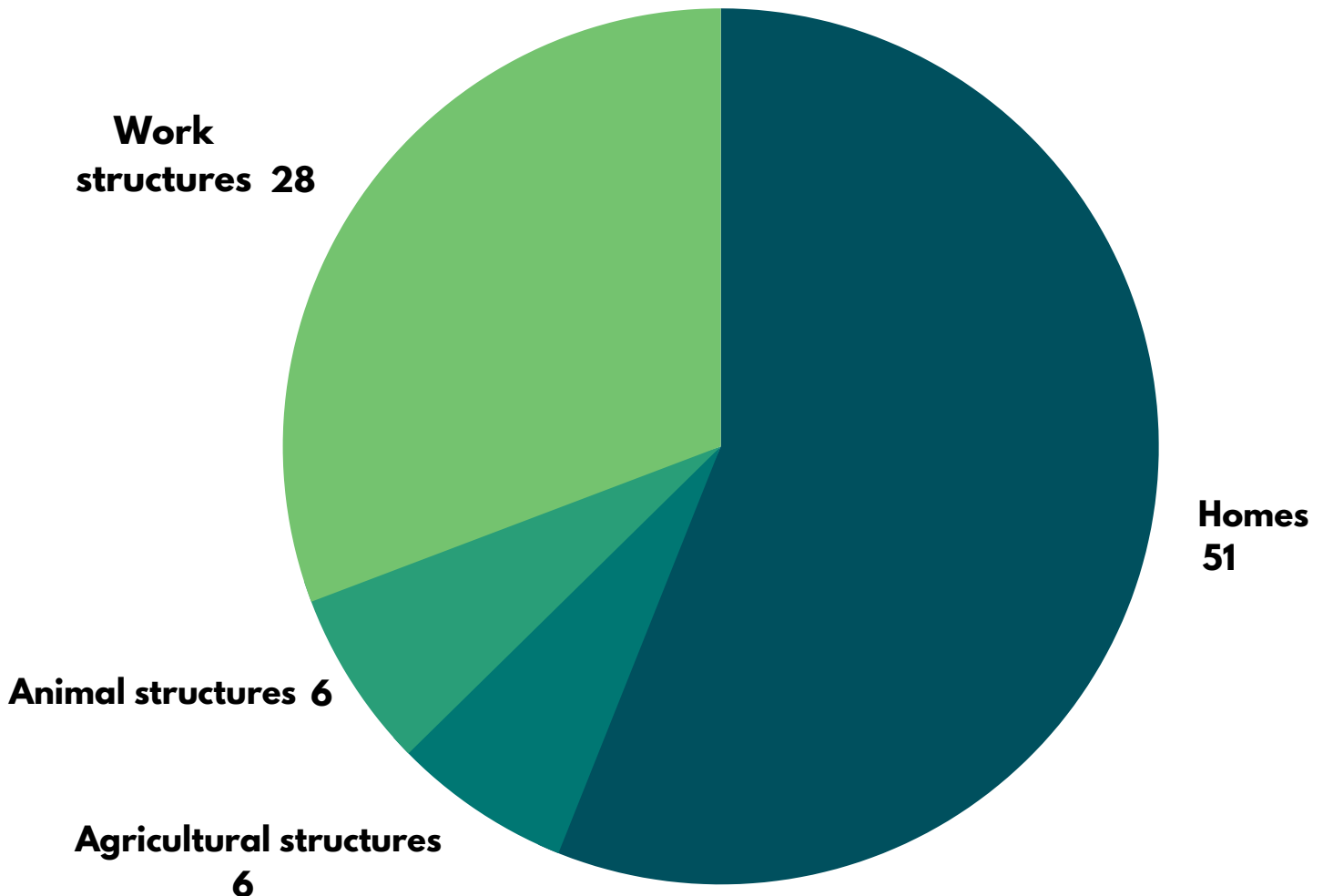
Our research found that in 2020 South Korean company Hyundai's machines:

- Affected at least 619 Palestinian people.
- Demolished at least 91 Palestinian structures, including 51 homes.
- Displaced at least 144 Palestinian people, making at least 65 children homeless.
- Hyundai equipment destroyed at least four water tanks, cisterns, reservoirs or irrigation systems, cutting Palestinian villages off from the water sources that are needed in order to survive on their land.
- Were used to destroy an electricity network in the village of Khalet Tara, affecting 41 people.
- Uprooted at least 930 trees.
- Razed at least 30 dunums of Palestinian land and were used to create at least one road block, preventing Palestinian access to land.



**A Hyundai excavator
destroys an agricultural
structure in the South
Hebron Hills, June 2020.
Photo: Good Shepherd
Collective**

A breakdown of the 91 structures demolished by Hyundai bulldozers in 2020



South Korean giant Hyundai Heavy Industries' excavators continue to be vital to the Israeli occupation when carrying out their demolitions of bigger structures. Hyundai equipment is usually used to destroy Palestinian houses and work structures within city limits. The company's excavators have long booms: essential for demolishing taller buildings in urban environments.

For an in-depth profile on Hyundai, its investors, and for ideas of how you can take action, please read our 2019 edition of [Resisting Demolitions in Palestine](#).

Hidromek

Our research found that in 2020 Turkish company Hidromek's machines:

- Affected at least 1,475 Palestinian people.
- Destroyed 1.5km of water pipes that connected all Masafer Yatta communities to water. 770 adults and 630 children were left without water.
- Were used to destroy an electricity network in the village of Khalet Tara, affecting 41 people.
- Demolished at least 10 Palestinian structures, including 7 homes.
- Displaced at least 23 Palestinian people, making at least 11 children homeless.
- Destroyed the walls and steps to a Muslim cemetery in the old city of Al-Quds (Jerusalem).

Turkish company Hidromek's backhoe loaders are not used nearly as frequently as JCB's. But as you can see from our 2020 statistics, when they are brought out – usually in the South Hebron Hills – they wreak havoc.

Hidromek is a Turkish company, headquartered in Ankara and owned by the Bozkurt family. It aspires to be a global brand. We think Hidromek is an important target for BDS campaigners in Turkey.

Lui Gong

Our research found that in 2020 Chinese company Lui Gong's machines:

- Affected at least 253 Palestinian people.
- Demolished at least 17 Palestinian structures, including 1 home.
- Displaced at least 40 Palestinian people, making at least 16 children homeless.
- Uprooted at least 100 date palm trees.
- Demolished a Palestinian school structure in the South Hebron Hills, affecting 60 children.

Lui Gong is headquartered in Luizhou, China, and employs more than 10,000 people. Lui Gong's excavators are often paired with Hyundai excavators to demolish large Palestinian buildings in urban areas.

Below: A Lui Gong excavator demolishes three apartments in Silwan, East Jerusalem, on 11 August 2020, displacing 15 people. Photo taken from a B'Tselem video of the incident.



The Italian crane companies: Fassi & Effer

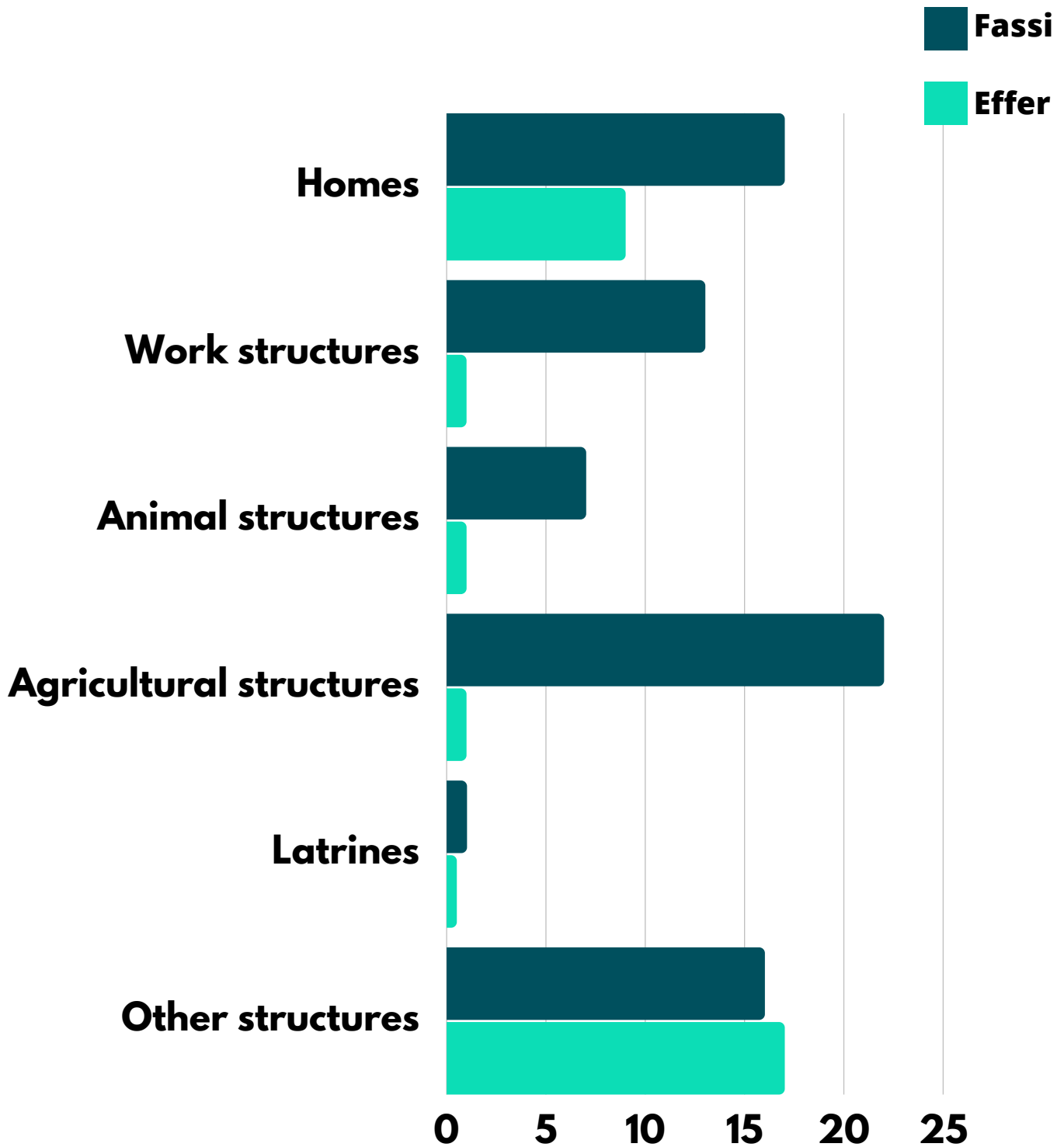
The Israeli occupation doesn't only demolish Palestinian structures. In Bedouin and other Area C communities, the Israeli administration often chooses to dismantle and confiscate homes, animal pens and work structures. To do this, it needs cranes. And its cranes of choice come from Italy.

In 2020, we spotted three Italian crane companies being used by Israel: Fassi, Effer and Cormach. Cormach is a newcomer, and – at least for now – is rarely used.

- Between them, Fassi and Effer's cranes affected 819 Palestinian people. Fassi cranes affected 530, while Effer affected 289.
- The two crane companies helped to displace 117 Palestinian people, including 52 children. Fassi cranes displaced 67, while Effer displaced 50.
- Both Fassi and Effer cranes were used in the destruction and confiscation of four structures in the Jordan Valley at the end of March 2020 – just as the Coronavirus pandemic was hitting – that were being used as both a mosque and a field clinic.
- A Fassi crane was used to confiscate the visitor centre of a new hiking trail in Ein al-Hilweh in the Jordan Valley.
- An Effer crane was used to destroy a school classroom in the South Hebron Hills.



A breakdown of the 103 structures confiscated by Fassi and Effer cranes in 2020



Take action

Fassi is headquartered in Albino, Italy. All of its cranes are manufactured in factories within the country. Effer is based in Minerbio, Bologna, and is owned by the Finnish Hiab/Cargotec Corporation. Like Fassi, all of Effer's cranes are manufactured at plants in Italy. Effer has three factories in Bologna and one in Taranto.

Both Fassi and Effer are good targets for Italian BDS campaigners, as these companies' cranes are used in almost all confiscations of Area C structures. Campaigners could:

- Take direct action at the companies' factories and demonstrate outside their headquarters.
- Contact both companies and demand that they stop supplying Israel with equipment that is destroying Palestinian lives.
- Contact local municipalities and demand that they do not hire contractors who use Fassi or Effer equipment.
- Workers' unions could make statements, demanding that Fassi and Effer prevent their cranes from being used in Israel's ethnic cleansing of Bedouin communities.
- Make contact with:

Good Shepherd Collective – centred in the South Hebron Hills

Operation Dove – an Italian organisation also based in the South Hebron Hills

Jordan Valley Solidarity – a Palestinian grassroots network

and find out about the Palestinian Bedouins' struggle for existence, and how you can volunteer in Palestine or donate from home.

Much of the data we collected wouldn't have been possible without these three organisations on the ground, documenting and photographing demolitions and confiscations.



We offer this ebook freely. However, if you would like to donate to our work, please [follow this link](#).

Above: A Fassi and an Effer crane are used to destroy tents and building materials in Khirbet Ibziq in the Jordan Valley. One home, eight tents for public use, four tents used as a mosque and field clinic, and four emergency shelters were destroyed. Photo by Aref Daraghmah

Back cover: Ismail Abadiyeh, his wife and their six children are made homeless after the demolition of their home last July in the Wadi Al-Hummus area of Sur Baher, East Jerusalem, April 23, 2020. The family currently resides in two mould-infested rooms belonging to distant relatives since their home was demolished, despite facing health regulations demanding they remain home for the past month due to Covid-19, and the commencement of the fast of Ramadan. Ruins remain where their home once sat. Photo by Heather Sharona Weiss, Active Stills



Published by Shoal Collective

shoal radical writing
for a world beyond capitalism

corporateoccupation.org

Creative Commons: share widely and use the research in
this book freely