

ASI Resolution:
Ceasefire Resolution in the Gaza Strip

We stand firm in condemning the recent rise of Islamophobic, Anti-Arab, and Anti-Palestinian harassment, hate crimes, hate speech, doxing, and suppression of freedom of expression in universities across the United States.

Whereas, in the period since October 7th 2023, Anti-Palestinian and Anti-Muslim hate crimes and discrimination have risen by 180% in the United States (Al-Jazeera Plus). On October 13th, a six-year-old Palestinian child, Wadea Al-Faiyome, was stabbed 26 times in Chicago. On November 25th, three 20-year-old Palestinian college students wearing keffiyehs - Hisham Awartani, Tahseen Ali Ahmad, and Kinnan Abdalhamid - were shot while walking down the street in Burlington, Vermont. The attack has left Awartani permanently paralyzed from the waist down. On February 4th, *just 3 days ago*, a Palestinian-American Muslim, Zacharia Doar, and three other Muslim Americans were verbally abused and physically assaulted while wearing keffiyehs. Doar was also stabbed (The IMEU).

Sources used for above:

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/11/26/three-palestinian-men-shot-in-vermont-us-amid-israel-hamas-truce>

<https://sprout.link/theimeu>

Whereas, on January 19, 2024, college students at Columbia University, who were peacefully protesting against the Gaza Genocide, were sprayed with a chemical weapon known to be manufactured by the state of Israel. This weapon is commonly employed as a means of collective punishment against Palestinians and as a tool to forcibly displace them from the Occupied West Bank, facilitating the expansion of illegal settlements. Two perpetrators, both of them former Israeli Occupation Forces (IOF) soldiers, disguised themselves as Pro-Palestinian protesters and used the weapon. 14 students remain hospitalized as a result of the attack, experiencing symptoms such as burning eyes, severe nausea, elevated heart rate, and other symptoms. Columbia University has failed to publicly acknowledge the attack, and little attention has been given to the incident in the United States. Notably, this chemical weapon is produced and distributed exclusively by Israel, as medical professionals in the United States lack the expertise to treat and manage its effects. The students in question have been unable to attend classes for over two weeks. (Prism Reports, OpenDemocracy)

Sources used above:

<https://prismreports.org/2024/01/30/pro-palestine-students-at-columbia-university-speak-out-about-skunk-attack/>

<https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/skunk-water-stench-as-weapon-of-war/>

Further Information on Attack:

https://www.democracynow.org/2024/1/25/columbia_palestine_protest_attack

Whereas, since October 7th 2023, according to Gaza’s Health Ministry and The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), more than 27,000 Palestinians have been killed by the Israeli Occupation Forces, including 11,500 children and 258 babies (aged 0), with over 66,000 wounded, including over 1,000 children who have had one or both legs amputated. In total, over 100,000 Gazans have been killed, injured, or are still trapped under the rubble of their homes or displaced to shelters that the IOF has claimed are safe. The reality is that nowhere in Gaza is safe from Israel’s genocidal assault on the strip and its inhabitants (Al Jazeera). Additionally, in the Occupied West Bank, an area where Hamas is not present, 266 people have been killed, and 3,365 have been wounded.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/liveblog/2024/2/5/israels-war-on-gaza-live-israeli-strikes-level-homes-in-deir-el-balah#:~:text=The%20UN%20says%20that%20since,by%20Israel%20to%20be%20addressed.>

(other sources in this already cited)

Whereas, Israel has displaced 1.9 million Palestinians in Gaza (out of 2.3 million), forcing them into a small city, Rafah, to seek refuge from indiscriminate and inhumane bombings. The Israeli government has announced that it will soon launch a ground offensive on Rafah and has dropped an estimated 500,000 leaflets urging evacuation to Dair al-Balah, a small town that already hosts 500,000 Palestinians. The town cannot possibly accommodate an additional 1.9 million people, and there is little chance of displaced Palestinians crossing into Egypt at the Rafah border checkpoint. As Israel’s relentless bombardment continues, Gaza’s 2.3 million people will be imprisoned in an open-air concentration camp with little to no food, water, shelter, medical supplies and other essentials.

Sources used above:

<https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/palestinians-hope-blinken-visit-can-deliver-gaza-truce-before-rafah-assault-2024-02-05/>

<https://www.alhaq.org/monitoring-documentation/6818.html>

Whereas, for the past 16 years, Israel has imposed a blockade on Gaza and limited or at times prevented entirely the entry of essential good and supplies such as food and medicine. The United Nations Humanitarian Coordinator for Palestine, Jamie McGoldrick states that “Israel has

added insulin pens for children to the list of prohibited items that are not allowed into the besieged and war-torn Gaza strip” (The Palestinian Information Center). On February 6th, a young Palestinian man, Rami al Nagla passed away in Gaza because he had no access to insulin as a result of Israel’s blockade (Mint Press). McGoldrick goes on to say, “Humanitarian workers are being sent into very hostile areas and they have no radios, they have no communications that work for them to be seen to be safe” (The Palestinian Information Center). As of February 4th, 2024, 152 UN workers have been killed by the Israeli Occupation Forces.

<https://english.palinfo.com/news/2024/01/25/313357/#:~:text=The%20UN%20Humanitarian%20Coordinator%20for,and%20war%2Dtorn%20Gaza%20Strip.>

<https://www.mintpressnews.com/>

Whereas, on January 26, 2024, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) has issued a provisional order against Israel and called on it to put in place effective measures to prevent the killing of civilians, destruction of civilian infrastructure, institutions and property, and consistent with International Humanitarian Law and the Geneva Conventions, to allow food, water, medical aid, fuel, and other humanitarian essentials into Gaza, to restore telecommunications and do everything in its power to “prevent genocidal acts against Gazans” The ICJ found that there is sufficient evidence to continue its investigation of Israel on charges of genocide against the Palestinian people.¹

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/new-atlanticist/experts-react/experts-react-what-the-international-court-of-justice-said-and-didnt-say-in-the-genocide-case-against-israel/#:~:text=Today%2C%20the%20ICJ%20ordered%20that,to%20destroy%20the%20Gazan%20people.>

Whereas, on January 29, 2024, Israel has accused, without providing specific, credible evidence, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) of being affiliated with Hamas and involved in the attacks of October 7th 2023. Despite the fact that Israel’s claims have not been independently verified, The European Union and the United States – the largest donors to UNRWA – have withdrawn their funding of the organization. In the absence of these funds, UNRWA will be unable to carry out its mission of providing the people of Gaza with primary and vocational education, healthcare, social assistance and other essential services, further worsening the already dire conditions in the strip. The organization estimates that it will have to withdraw its services by the end of February if funding is not restored to its previous levels (Reuters).

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<https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2024/01/israel-must-comply-with-key-icj-ruling-ordering-it-do-all-in-its-power-to-prevent-genocide-against-palestinians-in-gaza/#:~:text=The%20ruling%20issued%20by%20the,assistance%20to%20civilians%20in%20Gaza.>

<https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/unrwa-could-shut-down-by-end-february-if-funding-does-not-resume-2024-02-01/>

Whereas, all universities and schools in the Gaza Strip have been completely destroyed or damaged and educators killed,² a genocidal policy which contributes to the destruction of what Raphael Lemkin (the Polish-Jewish legal theorist who coined the term ‘genocide’) called the “essential foundations” of the life of national groups. Over 231 educators have been killed and the number rises with each passing day. Israel has also used the Al-Israa University as a military base and “detention center” to torture Palestinian men and children.

<https://reliefweb.int/report/occupied-palestinian-territory/children-suffer-education-under-attack-west-bank-and-gaza>

<https://english.palinfo.com/news/2024/01/18/313005/>

Whereas, according to the World Health Organization, there have been more than 600³ attacks on the health system in both the Occupied West Bank and Gaza. All 36 hospitals in Gaza have been severely damaged, completely destroyed, or lack the fuel and medical supplies to function at anywhere near their normal capacity, which would not, in any case, be sufficient to cope with the huge influx of seriously injured and sick patients.

Add additional source:

<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2023/12/22/world/society/gaza-hospitals-function-stop/>

Whereas, on February 2nd 2024, the bodies of more than 30 women, men and children were found in black body bags. The evidence suggests that the victims were killed execution-style and were already in a decomposed state when they were found in a schoolyard. This latest discovery adds to confirmed accounts of Palestinian men of all ages being kidnapped by Israeli forces, tortured and executed. These incidents have been documented by such independent organizations as the Euro-Med Human Rights Monitor.

https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/2/1/palestinians-demand-international-inquiry-after-mass-grave-found-in-gaza#:~:text=At%20least%2030%20bodies%20were_civilians%20%E2%80%9Cexecution%2Dstyle%E2%80%9D.

Whereas, the United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres told the U.N. Security Council that Gaza is at a breaking point and that the total collapse of the humanitarian support system is inevitable. He has called for an immediate humanitarian ceasefire.

² <https://www.savethechildren.org/us/charity-stories/gaza-children-forced-to-learn-how-to-survive-bombs-hunger>

³ <https://www.un.org/en>

Whereas, on December 12, 2023, in the UN General Assembly, an overwhelming majority of 153 to 10 voted in favor of calling for an immediate humanitarian ceasefire.⁴

Whereas, on February 6, 2024, The US House of Representatives rejected a \$17.6 billion aid to Israel, the vote count being 250-180.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/us-house-rejects-republican-led-effort-pass-israel-only-aid-bill-2024-02-07/#:~:text=The%20vote%20was%20250%20to.and%2046%20Democrats%20supported%20it.>

Be it resolved, that the Associated Students Incorporated of California State University, Los Angeles calls for the following:

1. An immediate ceasefire in the Gaza Strip;
2. An immediate end to all U.S. military aid to Israel;
3. The opening of Israeli-controlled border crossings to allow sufficient amounts of food, fuel, medical supplies and other essential goods and services into Gaza;
4. An immediate restoration by Israel of electricity, the Internet, and water to the entire Gaza Strip;
5. The negotiated release of Israelis held by Hamas in Gaza and Palestinian prisoners held by Israel;
6. Prosecution and punishment of war crimes, genocide and crimes against humanity committed on and after October 7th 2023;
7. Divesting Cal State LA and CSU funds from companies that manufacture weapons sold to Israel or are, in some other way, complicit in maintaining the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip;
8. University administrators provide resources and support for those most impacted and to protect faculty, staff, students, and community members from experiencing attacks on their personal and psychological safety and academic freedoms, including their right to freely express their views about Israel's policies and conduct in academic and other settings. These local examples of epistemic and physical violence are directly tied to the U.S.-funded genocide occurring in Palestine.
9. For these reasons, and with great urgency, the ASI of Cal State LA supports the demands of the student-led campus encampment, and we call on President Eanes to immediately begin negotiations with the students over their righteous demands.

Associated Students Incorporated of California State university, Los Angeles also calls for the following:

⁴ <https://news.un.org/en/story/2023/12/1144717>

- **That** Cal State LA leadership and the City of Los Angeles officially join this call for an immediate ceasefire, an unwavering stance against genocide, and to prevent any additional loss of life.
- **For** Los Angeles City Council members to advocate and act against the rising tide of Anti-Arab and Anti-Palestinian racism, Islamophobia, and all other acts of hate in the community.
- **Be it further resolved** that we continue to condemn the horrific acts of genocide committed by Israel and United States complicity in enabling this genocide by providing unequivocal support through diplomatic and political means and military funding. We remain unequivocally committed to promoting student's right to freedom of speech, and their right to a sense of safety and belonging on and off campus. Disagreement and discourse are a critical part of higher education. We therefore implore students to treat one another with dignity and respect during these difficult times.

Resources:

Educational Resources:

- <https://imeu.org/>
- <https://www.middleeasteye.net/>
- <https://www.aljazeera.com/>
- <https://www.mintpressnews.com/>
- <https://english.palinfo.com/>
- <https://slowfactory.earth/>
- <https://www.newarab.com/>
- [Fake Or Real? How To Self-Check The News And Get The Facts- NPR](#)
- [Is it legit? Five steps for vetting a news source- News Literacy Project](#)

Palestinian Journalists

- Bisan Owda
- Khind Khoudary
- Wael Al-Dahdouh
- Motaz Azaiza
- Saleh Aljafarawi

Palestinian Educational Toolkit(s)

- <https://palestinianfeministcollective.org/all-out-for-palestine/>
- https://actionnetwork.org/user_files/user_files/000/060/430/original/PFC_Toolkit_PDF.pdf
- <https://www.intersectionalenvironmentalist.com/toolkits/ecofeminism-and-environmental-liberation>