

A RESOLUTION ADVOCATING FOR A CEASEFIRE AND THE UNRESTRICTED DELIVERY OF HUMANITARIAN AID IN THE GAZA STRIP AND URGING THE UNIVERSITY TO SAFEGUARD THE EXERCISE OF FREE SPEECH

Sponsors: Ashley Zazueta, Andrea Ramirez Rivera, Nicholas Furtado, Aida Aryan Co-Sponsors: Maysem Awadalla, Mark Zavalkov, Cameron Macedonio, Students for Justice in Palestine at CSUF (SJP), Southwest Asian North African Student Organization (SWANA), Students in the Clinical Mental Health Counseling and Marriage and Family Therapy

WHEREAS, the Associated Students, Incorporated (ASI) is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization that operates as an auxiliary organization of California State University, Fullerton; and

WHEREAS, ASI is governed by ASI Board of Directors, sets policy for the organization, approves all funding allocations to programs and services, and advocates on behalf of student interests on committees and boards; and

WHEREAS, Palestine is located in the Southwest Asian North African (SWANA) region and has been occupied by the Apartheid State of Israel since 1967¹; and

WHEREAS, as a result of a long history of occupation by Israeli forces, native Palestinians have been driven from their land and homes, creating tension between the two groups, leading up to the October 7th, 2023 act of violence against Israeli civilians by Hamas; and

WHEREAS, Palestinians in Gaza are currently enduring the largest attack on Gaza in history; and as of March 29th, at least 32,623 Palestinians have been killed in Gaza, and 75,092 Palestinians have been injured since October 7th²; and

WHEREAS, on February 29th, Israeli forces opened fire on a crowd of Palestinians gathering to receive aid, killing at least 112 and injuring at least 760, known as the flour massacre³, which is one of 14 recorded attacks on Palestinians seeking aid between January and February of 2024; and

WHEREAS, since March 1st, 30 percent of humanitarian aid missions to northern Gaza and 10 percent of missions to southern Gaza were denied access by the Israeli authorities.⁴; and

¹/https://asi.fullerton.edu/wp-

content/uploads/2023/05/Resolution Divestment in Support of Palestinian Students CSUF.pdf ² https://www.ochaopt.org/content/hostilities-gaza-strip-and-israel-flash-update-148

³ https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/03/un-experts-condemn-flour-massacre-urge-israel-endcampaign-starvation-gaza

⁴ https://www.ochaopt.org/content/hostilities-gaza-strip-and-israel-flash-update-148

WHEREAS, multiple international organizations, including the United Nations, have condemned the actions committed by Israel⁵, including the United Nations Human Rights Council, who published a resolution on March 26th, 2024, where they affirmed that all nations must respect international law, reaffirming the Palestinian struggle for independence, as well as speaking out against collective punishment; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization (WHO) has reported several outbreaks of infectious and communicable diseases and malnutrition and a lack of ability to provide adequate healthcare to patients⁶; and

WHEREAS, the healthcare system in Gaza is facing unprecedented amounts of pressure, having severe consequences on Palestinian access to care due to attacks by Israeli forces, which have killed 534 and injured 729 people⁷; and

WHEREAS, CSUF houses a large number of Palestinian students who are directly connected with this issue, have lost family members due to this genocide, and face challenges in dealing with the effects of the genocide; and

WHEREAS, CSUF houses a large population of SWANA students who have expressed their frustration with the university in their handling of this issue, and the ongoing bombardment in Gaza has contributed to an environment of fear and heightened tensions; evidenced by reports of inappropriate comments in areas such as restrooms in Pollak Library, which underscores the urgent need for a ceasefire; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the occupied Palestinian territories, Francesca Albanese, has officially reported that "acts of genocide against Palestinians in Gaza has been met⁸" and official organizations such as media outlets⁹, governmental organizations¹⁰, and even CSUF¹¹ refer to these acts of genocide as a "conflict"; and

WHEREAS, past student leaders at CSUF have been doxed for speaking out for speaking out for Palestinian human rights, with no help or protection from the campus, and professors and students at various colleges across the United States have also been doxed for the same reasons, with no responses or support from their campuses; and

⁵ <u>https://www.hrw.org/report/2009/03/25/rain-fire/israels-unlawful-use-white-phosphorus-gaza</u>

⁶ <u>https://www.emro.who.int/images/stories/Sitrep__issue_26b.pdf?ua=1</u>

⁷ <u>https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2023/12/gaza-un-expert-condemns-unrelenting-war-health-system-amid-airstrikes</u>

⁸ <u>https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/3/26/un-expert-accuses-israel-of-several-acts-of-genocide-in-gaza</u>

⁹ <u>https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2024/04/01/israel-gaza-anwar-sadat-peace-leader/</u>

¹⁰ <u>https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/speeches-remarks/2023/12/02/remarks-by-vice-president-harris-on-the-conflict-between-israel-and-hamas/</u>

¹¹ <u>https://news.fullerton.edu/2023/10/csuf-scholars-examine-complexities-of-israeli-palestinian-conflict/</u>

WHEREAS, the escalation of violence perpetuates a belief that discrimination is permissible, contributing to an atmosphere where students do not feel adequately supported by CSUF administration members; and

WHEREAS, students desire open dialogue or wish to share resources but are inhibited from doing so due to fear of reprisal or a lack of support in having this conversation with those seeking open dialogue; and

WHEREAS, student leaders at the Cal State Student Association (CSSA) passed a resolution Calling for a Ceasefire in the Gaza Strip, Condemning Human Rights Violations and War Crimes, and Reaffirming Students' Freedom of Speech and Expression¹², student leaders at Chico State and San Diego State have also passed similar resolutions calling for a ceasefire and condemning human rights violations, and resolutions calling for a ceasefire have been passed as well in various city councils, including but not limited to San Francisco, Chicago, Long Beach, and Sacramento; and

WHEREAS, the ASI Board of Directors from 2022-2023 passed a resolution for divestment in support of Palestinian students, affirming ASI's commitment to ensuring fair and equitable practices to support human rights¹³; and therefore, let it be

RESOLVED, the ASI Board of Directors upholds the enduring principles of nonviolent political expression on university campuses and advocates for the rights of students to express themselves freely and peacefully, devoid of any form of violence or intimidation¹⁴; and therefore, let it be

RESOLVED, the ASI Board of Directors recognizes that there have been factually inaccurate reports surrounding Hamas' and the acts committed and condemns retaliation by Israeli forces as a result of these inaccuracies¹⁵; and let it be further

RESOLVED, ASI encourages the University to implement comprehensive policies to safeguard students from doxing and online harassment, with clear guidelines and swift disciplinary measures, as well as develop specific protocols to address hate incidents, including racial, religious, and gender-based harassment, to ensure prevention, reporting, and support services aimed to protect all students and uphold a safe and supportive campus environment; and let it be further

¹² <u>https://docs.google.com/document/d/16UIHvaRab9R0mvopluJyzT92P70SEa3Par-jCDdcdlw/edit?usp=sharing</u>

¹³ <u>https://asi.fullerton.edu/wp-</u>

content/uploads/2023/05/Resolution_Divestment_in_Support_of_Palestinian_Students_CSUF.pdf ¹⁴ <u>https://asi.fullerton.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Resolution-in-Response-to-the-Statewide-Student-Demonstrations.pdf</u>

¹⁵ https://www.adl.org/resources/blog/adl-debunk-myths-and-false-narratives-about-israel-hamas-war

RESOLVED, ASI encourages the University to issue a public statement advocating for a ceasefire in Gaza, emphasizing that this stance is not about taking sides but rather recognizing the humanitarian crisis and violation of human rights resulting in loss of life; and let it be further

RESOLVED, all ASI references to the genocide against Palestinians shall be described as such, per the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the occupied Palestinian territories' findings; and let it be further

RESOLVED, the ASI Board of Directors recognizes that this issue is not religious but rather pertains to human rights, and upholds the values of tolerance and acceptance of all religions while rejecting notions of islamophobia and antisemitism; and let it be further

RESOLVED, the ASI Board of Directors acknowledges the urgent need for an immediate and permanent ceasefire and the imperative of facilitating humanitarian aid into Gaza as the bare minimum response to alleviate the humanitarian crisis; and let it be further

RESOLVED, ASI Board of Directors encourages CSUF faculty, staff, and students to proactively educate themselves and remain informed about the global events affecting their peers; and let it be further

RESOLVED, CSUF will continue to adhere to its core values of social justice and equity and maintain our belief that through understanding and empathy, we can foster a campus community where diverse perspectives are valued, and individuals feel supported in their pursuit of knowledge and understanding regarding this issue, without bias or judgment towards any particular viewpoint; and let it be finally

RESOLVED, that this Resolution be distributed to the ASI Executive Director and applicable departments and staff.

Adopted by the Board of Directors of the Associated Students Inc., California State University, Fullerton on the twenty-third day of April in the year two thousand and twenty-four.

Apr 25, 2024 10:04 PDT)

Ashely Zazueta Chair, Board of Directors

Gavin Ong Secretary, Board of Directors

Item 9.b Resolution Advocating for Ceasefire and Unrestricted Humanitarian Aid in Gaza Strip

Final Audit Report

2024-04-27

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