

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING SUSTAINED PEACE AND SAFETY FOR ALL STUDENTS

WHEREAS, Foothill College Academic Senate is committed to creating inclusive and just conditions where all students, staff, faculty, and administration feel a sense of belonging; and

WHEREAS, Foothill College has a history of embracing social justice, striving for equity, and supporting all members of our college community; and

WHEREAS, we cherish our cultural richness on our campus as evidenced by our Heritage Months, and strive to ensure all communities feel respected and heard, including our Arab American, Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Palestinian, and SWANA (Southwest Asian and North African) communities; and

WHEREAS, Foothill College Academic Senate recognizes that many groups within our community have had long and complex histories of trauma, displacement, and oppression, and we are committed to creating safe learning spaces for every student by committing to combat Anti-Arab racism, antisemitism, Islamophobia, xenophobia, and ethnonationalism in all its forms; and

WHEREAS, we recognize these complex histories and their intergenerational impact are felt deeply by our local communities during times of war, and we choose to uplift the value of peace and restorative justice—locally and globally; and

WHEREAS, the Academic Senate recognizes a government does not represent all of its people, that Zionism is a political ideology that can be critiqued, as all political ideologies under any system of government can be critiqued;¹ and

WHEREAS, Santa Clara County Board of Education passes a Resolution Recognizing Sustained Peace and Safety for All Children which called for a ceasefire ²; and

WHEREAS, Associated Students of Foothill College adopted a resolution, “Resolution Acknowledging the Palestinian Lives Lost During the Attacks Against Humanity”³ on May 27, 2021 which resolved to commit to provide factual information and history that concerns the Israeli occupation of Palestine; and

¹ Mishra, Pankaj. “Pankaj Mishra · the Shoah after Gaza.” London Review of Books, March 1, 2024. <https://www.lrb.co.uk/the-paper/v46/n05/pankaj-mishra/the-shoah-after-gaza>.

² Wylie, Kelly. 2024. “Santa Clara County Board of Education Passes Resolution Recognizing Sustained Peace and Safety for All Children.” Santa Clara County Office of Education. <https://www.sccoe.org/news/NR/Pages/Sustained-Peace-and-Safety-for-All-Children.aspx>.

³ Nguyen, Kevin. 2021. “DASG overwhelmingly passes Palestinian solidarity resolution.” La Voz News. <https://lavozeanza.com/uncategorized/2021/06/19/dasg-overwhelmingly-passes-palestinian-solidarity-resolution/>.

WHEREAS, DeAnza College Student Government adopted a “Resolution Acknowledging the Palestinian lives Lost During the Attacks Against Humanity on May 26, 2021 which resolved to commit to provide factual information and history that concerns the Israeli occupation of Palestine; and

WHEREAS, DeAnza Associated Student Body passed a resolution “In Support of Divestment from Companies That Profit from the Israeli Occupation of Palestinian Territories”⁴ on March 15, 2017; and

WHEREAS, we mourn the loss of hundreds of civilian lives in Israel, and over tens of thousands civilian lives in Palestine,⁵ including over 9,600 Palestinian children⁶ from Oct 7 to the present, and also throughout the decades of displacement,⁷ occupation,⁸ and blockade endured in Gaza⁹ and the West Bank;¹⁰ and

⁴ Students for Justice- De Anza College. 2021. “De Anza Associated Student Body Government, De Anza-Foothill Community College District, Foundation Board Resolution.” Google Docs. <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1MnyhnKO4EV8dYcwzIMdN92Y6j2kdDktOv5Ik9ByW7aI/e> dit.

⁵ Al Mughrabi, Nidal, Adam Makary, and Toby Chopra. 2024. “Gaza death toll climbs 28064 Palestinians killed, 67611 injured since Oct. 7, health ministry says.” *Reuters*, February 10, 2024. <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/gaza-death-toll-climbs-28064-palestinians-killed-67611-injured-since-oct-7-gaza-2024-02-10/>.

⁶ Al Mughrabi, Nidal, Adam Makary, and Toby Chopra. 2024. “Gaza death toll climbs 28064 Palestinians killed, 67611 injured since Oct. 7, health ministry says.” *Reuters*. <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/gaza-death-toll-climbs-28064-palestinians-killed-67611-injured-since-oct-7-gaza-2024-02-10/>.

⁷ Human Rights Watch. 2021. “A Threshold Crossed: Israeli Authorities and the Crimes of Apartheid and Persecution | HRW.” *Human Rights Watch*, April 27, 2021. <https://www.hrw.org/report/2021/04/27/threshold-crossed/israeli-authorities-and-crimes-apartheid-and-persecution>.

⁸ B'Tselem. 2021. “A regime of Jewish supremacy from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea: This is apartheid.” B'Tselem. https://www.btselem.org/publications/fulltext/202101_this_is_apartheid.

⁹ “Timeline: the humanitarian impact of the Gaza blockade | Oxfam International.” n.d. Oxfam International. Accessed February 25, 2024. <https://www.oxfam.org/en/timeline-humanitarian-impact-gaza-blockade>.

¹⁰ Kingsley, Patrick. 2022. “‘You’re Suffocating Us’: Israeli Blockade in West Bank Angers Palestinians.” *The New York Times*, October 26, 2022. <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/26/world/middleeast/israel-palestinians-insurgency-blockade-nablus-jenin.html>.

WHEREAS, 625,000 children are out of school,¹¹ at least 390 educational institutions,¹² including all universities in Gaza,¹³ have been destroyed or damaged by the Israeli government, 4,327 students have been killed and 7,819 others injured, at least 231 teachers and administrators have been killed, and another 756 educators injured; and

WHEREAS, nearly 100 journalists and their families have been killed since Oct 7th;¹⁴ and

WHEREAS, we recognize all liberation movements are often driven by inspired youth and student activism,¹⁵ including here at Foothill and DeAnza College;

WHEREAS, the Foothill College Academic Senate believes that peaceful diplomacy is the only way to achieve these goals; be it

RESOLVED, the institution and its various stakeholders will take proactive measures to provide resources and support to students and other individuals impacted by the ongoing genocide, including access to psychological services, support groups, and educational materials or events that provide factual information, cultural contexts, and history that concerns the Israeli occupation of Palestine, aimed at fostering understanding, dialogue, and empathy; be it further

RESOLVED, that the Foothill College Academic Senate calls for support of the International Court of Justice's orders that Israel must do everything within its power to prevent genocidal acts against Gazans,¹⁶ including, among others, deliberately inflicting conditions of life calculated to bring about Gazans' physical destruction, carried out with the intent to destroy the Gazan people; and, be it further

¹¹ Ferguson, Sarah. 2023. "Children Trapped in Gaza Conflict Face Generational Trauma." UNICEF USA. <https://www.unicefusa.org/stories/children-trapped-gaza-conflict-face-generational-trauma>.

¹² Relief Web. 2024. "Israel kills dozens of academics, destroys every university in the Gaza Strip [EN/AR] - occupied Palestinian territory." ReliefWeb. <https://reliefweb.int/report/occupied-palestinian-territory/israel-kills-dozens-academics-destroys-every-university-gaza-strip-enar>.

¹³ Desai, Chandni. 2024. "The war in Gaza is wiping out Palestine's education and knowledge systems." The Conversation. <https://theconversation.com/the-war-in-gaza-is-wiping-out-palestines-education-and-knowledge-systems-222055>.

¹⁴ Acosta, Carmen M., and Mahmud Hams. 2024. "Over 75% of all journalists killed in 2023 died in Gaza war, per CPJ." ICIJ. <https://www.icij.org/inside-icij/2024/02/over-75-of-all-journalists-killed-in-2023-died-in-gaza-war-per-cpj/>.

¹⁵ Barrett, Dawson. 2018. "The History of Student Activism in the United States." Teen Vogue. <https://www.teenvogue.com/story/the-history-of-student-activism-in-the-united-states>.

Astor, Maggie. 2018. "7 Times in History When Students Turned to Activism (Published 2018)." The New York Times. <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/03/05/us/student-protest-movements.html>.

¹⁶ Amnesty International. 2024. "Israel must comply with key ICJ ruling ordering it do all in its power to prevent genocide against Palestinians in Gaza." Amnesty International. <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/>.

RESOLVED, Foothill College Academic Senate calls for an immediate and permanent humanitarian ceasefire in Gaza, the release of all Israeli¹⁷ and Palestinian hostages,¹⁸ the immediate and safe passage of substantial humanitarian aid to the Palestinian people, and the immediate restoration of basic services, water, electricity, and fuel access to protect the health and well being of children and their families; and, be it further

RESOLVED, We demand that US taxpayer funds be used to prevent further loss of life and be invested in our nation's educational system.

¹⁷ Sullivan, Becky. 2023. "The accounts of freed Israeli hostages add pressure to save those still in captivity." NPR. <https://www.npr.org/2023/12/15/1219151214/israeli-hostages-hamas-gaza>.

¹⁸ FRANKEL, JULIA. 2023. "Israel holds over 1200 detainees without charge. That's the most in 3 decades, a rights group says." AP News. <https://apnews.com/article/israel-detention-jails-palestinians-west-bank-793a3b2a1ce8439d08756da8c63e5435>.

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<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/26/world/middleeast/israel-palestinians-insurgency-blockade-nablus-jenin.html>.

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