



**PALESTINE, ARAB, AND MUSLIM (PAM) CAUCUS of THE
CALIFORNIA FACULTY ASSOCIATION (CFA)**

**RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT PALESTINIANS AND THEIR ALLIES IN
THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY**

WHEREAS, Israel has forced [over 1.1 million Palestinians in Gaza](#) (mostly refugees) to flee their homes or risk losing their lives due to escalated military bombings by Israel since October 8, 2023;

WHEREAS, in violation of [The Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 \(Article 3.1\)](#), Israel has engaged since early October 2023 in the most severe form of collective punishment and retaliation against the Palestinian people of Gaza, including bombing hospitals, two major universities in Gaza, and United Nations (UN) schools/shelters, with no indications of when or whether the military assault and siege will stop;

WHEREAS, echoing colonial archetypes that seek to rationalize state violence against occupied people, Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant announced on October 9, 2023, Israel's deadly decision to ban food, water, and electricity to all Gazans because Israel was "[fighting human animals](#)";

WHEREAS, for the last 75 years, Israeli military colonialism, occupation, and apartheid has already caused widespread societal destruction for Palestinians, such that over [half the population currently lives in poverty](#);

WHEREAS, subjected to [food rationing](#), limited mobility in what humanitarian advocates have called an "[open air prison](#)", and widespread denial and limited access to education and employment, Palestinian life is oppressed on all levels;

WHEREAS, according to the [United Nations](#), with no effective amount of humanitarian supplies allowed into Gaza for over a month, more than 2 million Palestinians' lack of access to

clean water will undoubtedly cause pervasive death among this population, violating basic human rights of Palestinian civilians;

WHEREAS, in a further attempt to isolate an already besieged people and prevent news of these atrocities from reaching the international community, the Israeli army has [cut off Internet in Gaza](#);

WHEREAS, to date, [the death toll in Gaza stands at over 15,000 people](#) (most of them women and minors), Israeli air strikes on Gaza have killed one child every 10 minutes since October 8, 2023, and these numbers are expected to rise with no end in sight;

WHEREAS, even though it is enshrined in [The Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949](#) that international law extends special provisions and protection to non-combatants living under occupation, [the United Nations](#) has documented the ongoing systemic Israeli human rights violations of Palestinians living under a colonial and apartheid regime;

WHEREAS, [Paragraph 139 of the International Court of Justice's advisory opinion on the legality of Israel's separation wall \(2004\)](#) makes clear that Israel does not enjoy the right to self defense from its own occupied territories under Article 51 of the United Nations charter, and is thus, currently engaging in war crimes;

WHEREAS, according to [USAID Data Services](#), as of January 2023, in constant 2021 USA dollars (inflation-adjusted), total USA aid to Israel from 1946-2023 is an estimated \$260 billion, a large part of this used to fund the ethnic cleansing and genocide of Palestinians;

WHEREAS, despite such overwhelming evidence, the United States government and policy makers refuse to acknowledge the gross violations of Palestinian human rights that are enshrined in United States law, [including protocols for military aid](#);

WHEREAS, the ongoing inherent bias in USA mainstream media consistently spotlights the humanity and suffering of individual Israelis while [ignoring investigative coverage and reporting about Israel's crimes](#), let alone the suffering and pain of individual Palestinians, reducing them to [stereotypes](#) and/or [statistics](#);

WHEREAS, accusations are rising that social media corporations are purposefully censoring posts (“shadow banning”) that support Palestine, [“underscoring longstanding concerns about unfair moderation as war rages in Gaza”](#);

WHEREAS, attacks on faculty, students, staff, community members, and academic freedoms of those dissenting against Palestinian genocide [have alarmingly increased in higher education](#) since the Israeli invasion of Gaza;

WHEREAS, organizations such as the [ACLU](#) and activist-scholars such as [Angela Davis](#) call for inclusion of Palestinian rights as part of addressing “the need for an internationalist framework within which the ongoing work to dismantle structures of racism, heteropatriarchy, and economic injustice inside the United States can become more enduring and more meaningful;”

BE IT RESOLVED,

The CFA is committed to defending the health, safety, and academic freedom of students, faculty, staff, and community members in the CSU advocating for justice in Palestine.

The union demands from all administrators in the California State University system:

- to protect student’s right to walkout of classes, rally, protest, hold teach-ins and other activities;
- to offer immediate sanctuary (i.e., spaces free from harassment and detention on campus) to all Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) members in the CSU, as well as to any other students, faculty, staff, and community members who speak or act in solidarity with Palestine, or against the [ongoing criminalization of Palestine advocacy](#);
- to clearly reaffirm CSU’s commitment to enforcing the principles of academic freedom for those teaching on Palestine and Israel and/or for those using the principles of anti-racism and social justice, as laid out in [the CFA-CSU Collective Bargaining Agreement](#) and [the Academic Senate of the CSU Academic Freedom Policy \(2017\)](#);
- to proactively counter any intimidation or doxxing campaigns against any CSU student, faculty or staff member, by mobilizing the CSU’s legal resources to protect them;
- to provide the necessary university support and resources to protect faculty, staff, students, and community members who stand up against the genocide of Palestinians, as well as faculty, students, and staff whose families and communities are directly impacted by the siege on Gaza; the university will do this irrespective of donor-driven pressures and the corporatization of public institutions.

The CFA also stands in solidarity with the Palestinian people and refuses to allow a new violent displacement of Palestinians, or, [“Nakba”](#).

It supports:

- an immediate ceasefire by Israel on Gaza and a prisoner exchange between Israel and Hamas;
- the opening of the Rafah crossing to allow effective humanitarian aid, such as food, fuel, and medical supplies, into Gaza from Egypt;
- pressuring the USA government to restore electricity, water, food, and Internet that Israel has cut off to Gaza;
- an international, reputable, and unbiased commission to investigate war crimes;
- an immediate end to all USA military aid to Israel.

Adopted by the Palestine, Arab, and Muslim (PAM) Caucus on 11/6/23.

Endorsements:

CFA Librarians Committee [11/8/23]

CFA Cal Poly San Luis Obispo Executive Board [11/9/23; endorsement reaffirmed on 12/11/23]

CFA East Bay Executive Board [11/13/23]

CFA Cal Poly Humboldt Executive Board [11/14/23]

CFA Los Angeles Executive Board [11/15/23]

CFA Chico State Executive Board [11/16/23]

CFA Channel Islands Executive Board [11/17/23]

CFA San Francisco State Executive Board [11/17/23]

CFA Long Beach Executive Board [11/27/23]

CFA Dominguez Hills Executive Board [2/15/24]

CFA Sacramento Executive Board [3/1/24]

Academic Senates:

CSU East Bay [11/28/23]