

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

October 3, 2022

To the Following Organizations:

- Women of Berkeley Law
- Berkeley Law Muslim Student Association
- Law Students of African Descent
- Middle Eastern and North African Law Students Association
- Berkeley Law for Palestine
- Womxn of Color Collective
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association
- Queer Caucus
- Community Defense Project

In August of 2022, you adopted bylaws silencing and excluding speakers who have expressed support for Israel. Your bylaws state you “will not invite speakers that have expressed and continued to hold views or host/sponsor/promote events in support of Zionism.” As members of the global Jewish Community, we recognize these bylaws as a deliberate attempt to exclude Jewish students from the UC Berkeley campus community. So today, we call upon you to immediately extirpate this bylaw from your governing documents.

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is a deeply complex issue that has propagated intense moral and political friction for decades. Zionism is the idea that the Jewish People have a right to self-determination in their ancestral homeland—an idea that has existed since long before this conflict. [More than 95% of Jewish Americans](#) support the state of Israel. To prevent Jewish students from participating in student organizations unless they renounce the central tenet of their ethnocultural identity is an unconscionable act of discrimination. A connection to one’s heritage and homeland should not be a punishable offense. We are all equally entitled to be present on this campus and exercise our rights independent of discrimination.

History teaches well what follows when people are forced to pass litmus tests based on ethnic identity before they are granted their right to be treated as equal members of their community. The gravity of this injustice cannot be understated, and we stand firm in the face of hostility towards Jewish students. The undersigned have made our demands clear. If you maintain your posture of unqualified exclusion towards thousands of UC Berkeley students and faculty, the Jewish community will not stand idly by as discrimination is perpetrated against us.

As a community unified behind our common belief in equality and our popular commitment to freedom, it is our sincere hope that you will reverse the discrimination your organizations have perpetrated against Jewish people both on campus and around the world.

ASUC Senator Shay Cohen

UC Berkeley Tikvah

UC Berkeley Bears for Israel

UC Berkeley Chabad Student Group

UC Berkeley Associated Members of the Hillel Student Board

UC Berkeley Mishelanu

UC Berkeley Challah for Hunger/Nazun

UC Berkeley CAMERA

UC Berkeley ZOA

UC Berkeley Alpha Epsilon Pi

UC Berkeley Zeta Beta Tau

AEPi BU

AEPi Binghamton University

AEPi Bradley University

AEPi Brandy Rudnick George Mason University

AEPi Dalhousie University

AEPi GMU

AEPi Iowa

AEPi Irvine

AEPi Princeton

AEPi Rho Iota

AEPi SMU

AEPI Toronto Metropolitan University

AEPI UC San Diego

AEPI UT Austin

AEPI UTSA Theta Sigma

AEPI University of Cincinnati

AEPI University of Vermont

ASU SunPAC

Aggies for Israel at UC Davis

Australasian Union of Jewish Students (AUJS)

Beach Hillel

Chabad Chico State

Chabad Jewish Student Center at USC

Chabad Student Centre of Kingston

Chabad at Binghamton

Chabad at Cornell University

Chabad at DePaul

Chabad at FAU

Chabad at Florida Gulf Coast University

Chabad at House Bowery

Chabad at Miami University

Chabad at Syracuse University

Chabad at Texas A&M University

Chabad at UC Santa Barbara

Chabad at UMBC

Chabad at UVA

Chabad at University of Rhode Island

Chabad at Virginia Tech

Chabad at Western

Club Z

Cornellians for Israel (CFI) at Cornell University

Dule Israel Public Affairs Committee

Emory Israel Public Affairs Committee (EIPAC)

End Jew Hatred

Heels For Israel

Herut, N.A.

Hillel Brooklyn College

Hillel Student Board of Emory

Hillel UMBC

Hillel University of Southern California

Hillel at Baruch

Hillel at Cal Poly

Hillel at Harvard

Hillel at USC

Hillel of Silicon Valley

Homeland U of A

Israel Peace Initiative

Israeli-American Council (IAC) Mishelanu

JHealth @ UC San Diego

Jewish Club of Notre Dame

Jewish National Fund - USA

Jewish Pride Always

Jewish Student Coalition of New York (JSCNY)

Jewish on Campus

Jewish on Campus Ambassador Program

Jewtinos at Duke

Joshua Washington - IBSI

Michaela at Russian-Speaking Jewish Club

Mishelanu California Polytechnic State University (SLO)

Mishelanu FAU

Mishelanu Kennesaw State University

Mishelanu Northeastern

Mishelanu Ohio State University

Mishelanu Temple University

Mishelanu U of A

Mishelanu UMD

Mishelanu University of Florida (IAC)

Mishelanu Yeshiva University (IAC)

New Zionist Congress at NYU

Orthodox Community of UPenn

Orthodox Union - The Jewish Federation Initiative on Campus UCLA

Owls For Israel - Florida Atlantic University

PIPAC (Penn Israel Public Affairs Committee)

RSJ at UC San Diego

Realize Israel at NYU

RedHawks for Israel - Seattle University

SSI at American University

SSI at Babson College

SSI at CSULB

SSI at CSUN

SSI at Duke University

SSI at Rice U

SSI at UCLA

SSI at UCLA

SSI at UCalgary

SSI at UIUC

SSI at the University of Maryland

SSI at the University of Pennsylvania

South African Union of Jewish Students

StandWithUs Campus

StandWithUs Center for Combatting Antisemitism

StandWithUs International

StandWithUs San Diego

Stanford Israel Association

Stop Antisemitism

Students Supporting Israel - SSI

TAMID Group Arizona

TAMID Group BU

TAMID Group Binghamton University

TAMID Group Columbia

TAMID Group SMU

TAMID Group USC

TAMID Group University of Pennsylvania

TAMID Group at UVA

The University of Maryland Terps for Israel (TFI)

Tufts Friends of Israel

UCLA - Bruins for Israel Public Affairs Committee

UCLA Jewish Pre-Health Organization (JMED)

UCLA Persian Community at Hillel (PCH)

UCSD Chapter of Scholars for Peace in the Middle East (SPME)

USC Trojans for Israel

UTD Chabad StandStrong

Williams College Initiative for Israel

World Jewish Congress

Yavneh NYC

Yeshiva University - Yeshiva Student Union

YorkU JSU

ZBT American University

ZBT CSULA

ZBT Cal Poly

ZBT Theta, University of Pennsylvania

ZBT University of Kansas

ZBT Wisconsin

ZBT at Cornell University

ZBT at Monmouth College

ZBT at UCLA

30 Years After