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Owner Liz Roosa Millar:
Executive
Director

Department ASI Board
Documents

## **Gaza Ceasefire Resolution**

## Authored By: Wendy Obispo, Business Senator; Lorelei Claxton, CEIS Senator

**WHEREAS**, the Associated Students, Incorporated (ASI) is the elected representative of the students of California Polytechnic University, Pomona (Cal Poly Pomona); and

**WHEREAS**, according to the Bylaws of the Associated Students, Inc., Article 14 Section 4, "a resolution is a formal expression of an opinion by ASI"; and

**WHEREAS**, the mission of Cal Poly Pomona's Office of Equity & Compliance, "is to promote an environment that ensures the protection and development of talents, equality, access, opportunity, and a preference for inclusion, consonant with its policies and federal and state mandates" and

**WHEREAS,** Cal Poly Pomona is home to a number of students, who have family, friends, and various relations still currently living in Gaza and Occupied Palestine; and

**WHEREAS**, there has been a rise in antisemitism and Islamophobia in California and is explicitly harming our students; <sup>1</sup> and

**WHEREAS**, the "United Nation Human Rights Council calls the international community to cease all settlement activities as they are in violation of international humanitarian law, relevant United Nations resolutions and the agreements reached between the parties and the obligations under the Quartet road map"<sup>3</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 7, 2023, Hamas conducted an attack on Israel that left an estimated 1,200 killed, and over 200 hostages taken<sup>23</sup>; and

WHEREAS, the Palestinian people have been under systematic oppression for more than 75 years by the

Israeli government prior to the attack<sup>22</sup>; and

WHEREAS, the Israeli government and Zionism is not a representation of the Jewish people; and

**WHEREAS,** the "United Nation Human Rights Council condemns the continuing and occupying power of Israel which has influenced settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem"<sup>3</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, the United Nations<sup>4</sup>, Amnesty International<sup>5</sup>, Doctors without Borders<sup>6</sup>, World Health Organization<sup>7</sup> and Oxfam International<sup>8</sup> have called for an immediate humanitarian ceasefire in Gaza to end civilian suffering; and

**WHEREAS**, over 70% of the Palestinians who are killed in Gaza are composed of women and children and and

**WHEREAS,** over "85 per cent of the total population of Gaza - 1.9 million civilians - have been forcibly displaced"  $^{21}$ ; and

**WHEREAS,** thousands of citizens have been amassed and have been kept contained in undisclosed locations while suffering inhumane conditions under Israeli forces<sup>12</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, over "75% of universities and schools in the Gaza Strip have been completely destroyed or damaged, and according to the World Health Organization" 13, there have been "more than 600 attacks on the health system in the Palestinian Territories" 14; and

WHEREAS, at the time of this resolution, the number of Palestinians killed has surpassed 30, 000<sup>20</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, the Associated Students, Incorporated recognizes the cases brought to the International Court of Justice (ICJ), specifically the one brought forth by the Republic of South Africa which alleges that Israel is responsible for violations of the Genocide Convention regarding the actions taken upon Gaza and that such allegations have been rejected by Israel<sup>16</sup>; and

WHEREAS, the Associated Students, Incorporated acknowledges the provisional ruling by the International Court of Justice under the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide that "Israel must, in accordance with its obligations under the Genocide Convention, in relation to Palestinians in Gaza, take all measures within its power to prevent the commission of all acts within the scope of Article II of this Convention, in particular: (a) killing members of the group; (b) causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group; (c) deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part; and (d) imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group"<sup>24</sup>; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** the Associated Students, Incorporated calls for the immediate cessation of all violence and stands in solidarity with Palestinian students, faculty, and staff at Cal Poly Pomona and across the United States; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, the Associated Students, Incorporated calls for the safe return of the hostages taken by

Hamas; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, the Associated Students, Incorporated calls upon the international community to acknowledge Palestine's right to self-determination and to recognize their statehood; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, the Associated Students, Incorporated condemns the continued bombardment by the Israeli government<sup>21</sup>; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, the Associated Students, Incorporated condemns any language for forced displacement of populations within the Gaza strip; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** the Associated Students, Incorporated fosters an environment that upholds diversity, equity, and inclusion in regards to a supported humanitarian ceasefire in Gaza; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, the Associated Students, Incorporated condemns public comments that support ethnic cleansing and the execution of war crimes; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** the Associated Students, Incorporated condemns the targeting and deaths of civilians on all sides; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, the Associated Students, Incorporated calls on faculty to be compassionate to all students affected by the Palestinian Genocide as recognized by the Associated Students, Incorporated, with the inclusion but not limited to allowing for further time for assignments and assessments if requested; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** the Associated Students, Incorporated condemns the loss of innocent life and that we remain unequivocally committed to promoting student's rights to freedom of speech, and right to a sense of safety and belonging on and off campus; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** the Associated Students, Incorporated urges for the International Court of Justice to rule a court decision upon the cases made under the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide<sup>18</sup>; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, the Associated Students, Incorporated, with the acknowledgment of no court decision by the International Court of Justice under the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide at this time, are of the opinion that there is currently a genocide of the Palestian people; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, the Associated Students, Incorporated acknowledges the genocide of Palestinian people and condemns the ongoing genocide that is occurring; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** the Associated Students, Incorporated calls for a humanitarian ceasefire in the Gaza Strip; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** that Cal Poly Pomona is "committed to fostering a campus environment that values and critically engages with diverse viewpoints, rejects all forms of antisemitism and Islamophobia, violence, discrimination, and racism, as well as anti-Israeli and anti-Palestinian sentiment" and because of such commitments stands firm in the condemnation of antisemitism and Islamophobia <sup>19</sup>; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this resolution shall be widely distributed, including, but not limited to: President Joe Biden; U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations; Chancellor Mildred García; the California State University Board of Trustees; CSU Academic Senate; all 23 CSU Presidents; the California State Student Association; University President, Dr. Soraya M. Coley and her cabinet; the University Academic Senate; the University Staff Council; the University Human Resources; the University Division of Student Affairs and its departments; the Associated Students, Incorporated (ASI); the Poly Post; and the students of Cal Poly Pomona.

- 11 <u>Israel is holding up food for 1.1 million Palestinians in Gaza, the main UN aid agency there says | AP News</u>
- 12 <u>Rafah a 'pressure cooker of despair' in Gaza; US ambassador to UN stresses vital role of UNRWA |</u>
  <u>Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs</u>
- 13 Gaza's Children Are Forced to Learn How to Survive Bombs and Hunger | Save the Children
- 14 United Nations | Peace, dignity and equality on a healthy planet
- 15 South Africa's genocide case against Israel: The International Court of Justice explained | Chatham House International Affairs Think Tank
- 16 <u>Two-state solution in Israel-Palestine</u>: what is it, and how is it different from a one-state solution? <u>Vox</u>
- 17 https://www.un.org/unispal/document/anatomy-of-a-genocide-report-of-the-special-rapporteur-on-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Inside California college protests over the Israeli-Palestinian conflict - CalMatters

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> <u>Diversity (cpp.edu)</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> A Message from the... | Associated Students of CSU, Chico - Chico State (csuchico.edu)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> <u>Secretary-General Calls for Immediate Humanitarian Ceasefire in Gaza | Meetings Coverage and Press</u> Releases (un.org)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Immediate ceasefire needed to end civilian suffering in Israel/OPT (amnesty.org)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> <u>Doctors Without Borders calls for immediate ceasefire in Gaza | Doctors Without Borders - USA</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Preventing famine and deadly disease outbreak in Gaza requires faster, safer aid access and more supply routes (who.int)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Open Call for an Immediate Ceasefire in the Gaza Strip and Israel | Oxfam International

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Hostilities in the Gaza Strip and Israel | Flash Update #109 | United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs - occupied Palestinian territory (ochaopt.org)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-11-17/armenian-president-calls-for-premier-to-resign-over-war-defeat

the-situation-of-human-rights-in-the-palestinian-territory-occupied-since-1967-to-human-rights-council-advance-unedited-version-a-hrc-55/

- 18 CPP Condemns Antisemitism and Islamophobia
- 19 Gaza death toll surpasses 30,000 but it's an incomplete count: NPR
- 20 As Israel's Aerial Bombardments Intensify, 'There Is No Safe Place in Gaza', Humanitarian Affairs Chief Warns Security Council | Meetings Coverage and Press Releases UN
- 21 <a href="https://www.trtworld.com/magazine/a-brief-history-of-the-israeli-occupation-of-palestine-12733173">https://www.trtworld.com/magazine/a-brief-history-of-the-israeli-occupation-of-palestine-12733173</a>
- 22 https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20231215-israel-social-security-data-reveals-true-picture-of-oct-7-deaths
- 23 <a href="https://www.icj-cij.org/node/203847#:~:text=In%20conformity%20with%20its%20obligations,co-operation%20with%20the%20United">https://www.icj-cij.org/node/203847#:~:text=In%20conformity%20with%20its%20obligations,co-operation%20with%20the%20United</a>

## **Approval Signatures**

**Step Description** 

The Individual(s) presents SB/ SR to the ASI Board of Directors for Discussion and Action **Approver** 

Armando Rivas Gomez

Date

Pending