

THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT, TEMPE SENATE
EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

TUESDAY APRIL 13, 2021

SENATE RESOLUTION 09

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR KONYA SAIDU

THE COLLEGE

CO-SIGNED BY:

STUDENTS FOR JUSTICE IN PALESTINE, NO MAS MUERTES, MUSLIM STUDENT ASSOCIATION

STUDENTS FOR SOCIALISM, YOUNG DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISTS OF AMERICA

MEChA DE ASU, UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS FOR EDUCATION EQUITY

PALESTINE CULTURAL CLUB, SECULAR STUDENT ALLIANCE AT ASU

ASIAN/ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN STUDENTS' COALITION, MULTICULTURAL SOLIDARITY COALITION

LEBANESE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION , BARRETT LGBTQ+ CLUB, YOUNG DEMOCRATS AT ASU

WOMEN'S COALITION, PRE-LAW LATINX STUDENT ASSOCIATION, NAACP AT ASU

AUTHORIZED BY:

SENATOR DANIEL LOPEZ

The College

SENATOR ALEXIA ISAIS

The College

SENATOR YAMILET IBANEZ

The Teacher's College

A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT PALESTINIAN STUDENTS

WHEREAS, the Undergraduate Student Government Tempe was created to provide a unified forum for inter-university dialogue, to organize student involvement, and to advocate for and administer services, resources, and programs that benefit the students of Arizona State University;

WHEREAS the Israeli government creates obstacles for Palestinians' right to education by damaging Palestinian universities¹, colleges, and schools in military offensives; raiding students at those institutions and forcing the institutions to temporarily close for military or other reasons; restricting Palestinians' movement to such an extent that it impedes their ability to attend and teach classes; and preventing students from traveling abroad to study or present research;

NOTING THAT, as members of a university, we should support every person's right to education, regardless of location;

WHEREAS the Israeli government systematically violates Palestinians' rights under international law², including the right to education;

WHEREAS, Palestinians in the United States, including Arizona State University are affected by these actions;

NOTING THAT, in the past, USG-T has passed resolution standing in solidarity with Black students, Asian students, Jewish students, Native American students, and Latinx students, but has not shown support for Palestinian students that also make up the ASU community of color;

¹ <https://www.refworld.org/docid/5be9430b13.html>

² <https://www.un.org/unispal/document/auto-insert-182472/>

WHEREAS, as members of a minority group on campus, Palestinian students, as students of color, deserve to be supported by their student government as much as any other minority group on campus;

WHEREAS, supporting students of any background at ASU is not a political statement, especially as members of the student government;

WHEREAS dozens of academic bodies around the world, including the Association for Asian American Studies, the National Association of Chicana and Chicano Studies, the Native American and Indigenous Studies Association, the Critical Ethnic Studies Association, the African Literature Association, the American Studies Association, the graduate student worker union of the University of California, and, most recently, the American Anthropological Association and the National Women's Studies Association, have endorsed or recommended the boycott of Israeli academic institutions, and more, including the Middle Eastern Studies Association, are considering doing so, altogether making the issue of academic boycott a central one of the academic profession;

WHEREAS the Israeli economy is built on and currently complicit with colonization, exclusion and apartheid, so this resolution targets specific companies and brands in order to concentrate its efforts. Further, this resolution does not target the existence and economic activity of Jewish people in historic Palestine but rather goods and companies complicit in occupation and apartheid.

NOTING THAT, USG-T understands that the boycott of Israeli goods and academic institutions is expressly not the boycott of individual Israeli students or scholars, nor does it prohibit collaboration between student group members and Israeli students and scholars, but that it is

constitutionally protected free speech in support of the Palestinian call for solidarity to end the occupation and colonization of Palestine—mirroring the efforts of the boycotts which helped to end apartheid in South Africa;

NOTING THAT, some students will disagree with the decision to boycott, and USG-T acknowledges their position;

NOTING THAT, the university's support of the Israeli government through the investment of Israeli goods, while supporting some members of the population, is a political stance that isolates a large number of ASU students that stand in solidarity with Palestinian students;

ACKNOWLEDGING THAT, as the undergraduate student government, we have no say in what the university board decides to invest in, but-

NOTING THAT, as the undergraduate student government, we have the right to stand up for students however best a particular group would like to be supported, and it is in fact our duty to do as our constituents request.

WHEREAS, the best way to show support for Palestinian students at Arizona State University without isolating any other group is to take *no* political stance, and to do this by ending relationships with Israeli manufacturers and institutions.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Undergraduate Student Government will show support for Palestinian students and their fight for human rights by participating in the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions movement by

- Boycotting Israeli goods and goods manufactured in the Occupied Territories

- Boycotting Israeli academic institutions and conferences sponsored by the government of Israel
- Calling on ASU to divest its holdings from companies and funds that are complicit in the Israeli occupation of Palestine
- Committing to continually recognizing indigenous land and sovereignty

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, following the passing of this resolution, President Jacqueline Palmer will send this resolution to the office of the President to discuss in meetings with other members of ASU administration;

BE IT EVEN FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, members of ASU administration will provide a detailed report of their standing on the situation once discussions are complete.