

U.C. Berkeley School of Law Faculty Statement in Support of Jewish Law Students

We hereby endorse the principle of free and open speech at the law school. This includes the fundamental principle that all students should be freely admitted to all student groups and under no circumstances should any student be denied admission to any student group.

We are highly aware of the extensive discrimination against Jews in World and U.S history. In particular, we note that 2 of 3 Jews in Europe were murdered during the Holocaust and that the United States has engaged in extensive discrimination of Jews during its history.

With this background, we also condemn the discriminatory bylaw adopted by a small minority of our law student groups refusing to accept speakers who have Zionist views or beliefs. We believe this rule is not only wrong but is antithetical to free speech and our community values. These bylaws would also impermissibly exclude a large majority of our faculty from participating in the work of these organizations, including our Dean.

Many Jews (including some of us signing below who are Jewish) also experience this statement as antisemitism because it denies the existence of the state of Israel, the historical home of the Jewish people. For many Jews, Zionism is a core component of their identity and ethnic and ancestral heritage. As an educational institution we hope that the student groups that have now endorsed a “No Zionist speakers” pledge will engage in dialogue on these issues.

Initial signatories are members of the Advisory Board of the [Academic Engagement Network](#).

Mark G. Yudof, Professor of Law Emeritus, U.C. Berkeley School of Law

Steven Davidoff Solomon, Alexander F. and May T. Morrison Professor of Law, Faculty Advisor Jewish Students Association at Berkeley Law

Subsequent signatories

Malcolm Feeley, Claire Sanders Clements Professor Emeritus

Peter S. Menell, Koret Professor of Law

Erwin Chemerinsky, Dean and Jesse H. Choper Distinguished Professor of Law

Chris Hoofnagle, Teaching Professor of Law

David Singh Grewal, Professor of Law

Mark Gergen, Robert and Joann Burch D.P. Professor of Tax Law and Policy

Paul M. Schwartz, Jefferson E. Peyser Professor of Law

Kenneth A. Bamberger, The Rosalinde and Arthur Gilbert Foundation Professor of Law

Daniel Farber, Sho Sato Professor of Law

Elisabeth Semel, Chancellor's Clinical Professor of Law

Richard Buxbaum, Jackson H. Ralston Professor of International Law

Frank Zimring, Simon Professor of Law

Christopher Edley, Jr. , Interim Dean, Berkeley School of Education, Hon. William H. Orrick, Jr. Distinguished Professor and Dean Emeritus, Berkeley Law School

Eric Stover, Adjunct Professor of Law

Melvin Eisenberg, Jesse H. Choper Professor of Law

Orin Kerr, William G. Simon Professor of Law

Robert P. Bartlett, I. Michael Heyman Professor of Law

Robert Cole, Professor of Law

Eric Biber, Edward C. Halbach Jr. Professor of Law

Calvin Morrill, Stefan A. Riesenfeld Professor of Law and Professor of Sociology

Eleanor Swift, Professor of Law,

Carolyn Patty Blum, Clinical Professor of Law

David B. Oppenheimer, Clinical Professor of Law

Lauren B. Edelman, Agnes Roddy Robb Professor of Law and Professor of Sociology

Daniel L. Rubinfeld, Robert L. Bridges Professor of Law

Catherine Crump, Robert Glushko Clinical Professor of Practice in Technology Law

Harry N. Scheiber, Distinguished Professor of Law and History

Jonathan S. Gould, Assistant Professor of Law