

SENATE RESOLUTION
[NUMBER - *SR-S22-004*]

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TITLE	UC Divestment from Apartheid

WHEREAS, [B'Tselem](#), an Israeli human rights organization determined in January 2021 that the Israeli state, and its military, were guilty of fomenting an Apartheid state against the Palestinian people across all of historic Palestine;

WHEREAS, B'Tselem's conclusion has been independently affirmed by respected international human rights organizations, including Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, and the United Nations, which show Israel's regime to conform to the international legal the definition of apartheid as a "political regime which so intentionally and clearly prioritizes fundamental political, legal and social rights to one group over another, within the same geographic unit on the basis of one's racial-national-ethnic identity;

WHEREAS, SJP and ASUCR are committed as organizations to the principles of anti-racism and repudiate discrimination of any kind, including religion, national origin, gender and sexuality, we affirm that taking action against injustice practiced by the state of Israel or criticism of the political philosophy of Zionism must not be misunderstood as a stance against the Jewish faith or the Jewish people acknowledging and condemning the rampant rise of anti-Semitism, we stand firmly in support of the campus, national, and global Jewish community in their right to free practice of religion and values;

WHEREAS, [past action has been taken by ASUCR on divestment from apartheid](#), we recognize that in the near decade since, there has been significant developments in regards to the Palestinian issue and renewed affirmation is now required;

WHEREAS, we recognize the Palestinian issue has deep-rooted and far-reaching foundations in contemporary *history*;

WHEREAS, in 1948, following the passing of UN Resolution 181, [millions of Palestinian men, women, and children were forcibly displaced](#) from their ancestral homes, wherein such displacement continues to occurs till this day;

WHEREAS, Israel's continuing denial to Palestinian refugees of the right to return to their homes is a violation of international law and conventions;

WHEREAS, an approximate 5.7 million Palestinians are registered as refugees by the [United Nations Relief and Works Agency](#);

WHEREAS, the United Nations Security Council (U.N.S.C) found the Israeli state to be in violation of [28 U.N.S.C resolutions, naming them the world leader in such violations](#);

WHEREAS, the Israeli military has killed over [3,000 Palestinian children](#) through illegal bombing campaigns in the past twenty years, and [unjustly detained, imprisoned, and in many cases tortured thousands of Palestinian minors](#);

WHEREAS, many Palestinian children have been [forcibly detained and imprisoned](#), without Arabic-speaking legal counsel, proper nutrition, or access to their families, often being placed in isolation;

WHEREAS, 320,439 Palestinain children require enrollment in protection programs including, but not limited to, psychosocial support, and more than half of children in occupied Gaza depend on external aid, as according to the [United Nations Children's Fund](#);

WHEREAS, in a 2005 the World Organization against Torture published a [report](#) rampant cases of violence, intimidation, and sexual assault of Palestinian women, and reported accounts of the rape and murder during the 1948 Safsaf massacre, including the reported rape and murder of a 14-year old Palestinian girl;

WHEREAS, Israeli violations of human rights are tragically not restricted to the Palestinian people, with approximately 3,500 innocent Palestinain refugees lost in the Sabra and Shatila massacres of 1982 in Lebanon, under the unwatchful eyes of the Israeli Defense Forces, according to a [1983](#) report ;

WHEREAS, the consistent expansion of more than 250 Israeli settlements, found to be illegal [by the United Nations](#) and the international community at large, has left many [Palestinians displaced](#) and threatened by Israeli military retaliation;

WHEREAS, expansion of settlements by Israeli military forces has been found to be in violation of International Law and therefore amounting to war crimes perpetrated by the Israeli government and the Israeli Defense Forces;

WHEREAS, the persistent ethnic cleansing of Palestinian lands by the Israeli military has seen the use of illegal weaponry such as, but not limited to, the use of [white phosphorous](#) and carpet bombing, which are illegal under international law;

WHEREAS, we recognize that the persistent ethnic cleansing of the Palestinian people has had significantly detrimental impacts on the mental, physical, and academic health not only of Palestinian students on campus, but of those from the wider region and all allies of the Palestinian people;

WHEREAS, University of California policy ”[prohibits](#) discrimination based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender, gender expression, gender identity, pregnancy, physical or mental disability, medical condition (cancer-related or genetic characteristics), genetic information (including family medical history), ancestry, marital status, age, sexual orientation, citizenship, service in the uniformed services, or the intersection of any of these factors. Prohibited discrimination arising from historical biases, stereotypes and prejudices jeopardizes the research, teaching and service mission of the University”;

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of UCR to uphold that “A core value of the University of California, Riverside, is to provide a safe, nurturing, and enabling environment” therein including the promotion of human rights, equality, and dignity for all without discrimination;

WHEREAS, we recognize that in 2014 the UC system became a [signatory of the “United Nations-supported Principles for Responsible Investment,”](#) therein committing to consider environmental, social, and governance factors in their decisions to invest or withhold;

WHEREAS, the apartheid nature of Israel poses significant academic and personal implications for UCR students who are U.S Citizens with Arab, Middle Eastern, or Muslim origin due to their treatment by Israeli authorities upon entry, including during such students’ participation in UC study abroad programs;

WHEREAS, the [U.S State Department states](#) that, “U.S citizens of Arab or Muslim heritage (including Palestinian-Americans) have experienced significant difficulties and unequal and occasionally hostile treatment at Israeli checkpoints...U.S citizens who have traveled to Muslim countries or who are of Arab, Middle Eastern, or Muslim origin may face additional questioning by immigration and border authorities;”

WHEREAS, UC students seeking to attend a study abroad program in Israel may be [unjustly denied even entering the country](#) as “Individuals entering Israel...with family, professional, or political connections inside the West Bank may receive an entry stamp that permits travel only in the West Bank. This stamp does not permit the bearer to enter Israel...Travelers who have received such a stamp may file an appeal...However, appeals seldom result in changes;”

WHEREAS, we recognize the precedent of UC divestment from any apartheid action, notably the [1986 UC Board of Regents](#) decision to divest from companies with business to South African Apartheid;

WHEREAS, the UC system has a legal and moral obligation to upholding its aforementioned commitments and following the precedent of divestment from any party which partakes in apartheid activities;

WHEREAS, we recognize that due to the illegal, oppressive, and genocidal actions of the Israeli military, all companies which provide them with the necessary tools to do so are complicit, and that therefore any support for said companies must also be seen as complicit;

WHEREAS, the UC system is known to invest in corporations such as Perrigo Company, Cemex, Sabra, Raytheon, 3M, Northrop Grumman, Boeing, United Tech, Lockheed Martin, Ford, Atlas Copco, and BlackRock;

WHEREAS, we note that these corporations are critical to the Israeli Defense Forces, and therefore to the human rights violations, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and genocide against Palestine perpetrated by the IDF;

WHEREAS, Perrigo Company has been known to abuse its total control over the pharmaceutical supply to Palestinians, therein preventing proper access to medical care by Palestinian hospitals, exacerbating the degree of innocent fatalities resulting from IDF assaults;
[prevent its supply on campus;](#)

WHEREAS, Cemex is known to supply the needed cement for the expansion of the illegal Israeli settlements in the West Bank;

WHEREAS, Sabra Hummus’ parent organization, Strauss Group, is recognized for its involvement, and support of, the Israeli military;

WHEREAS, we recognize that while Sabra Hummus had previously been discontinued by the UC Riverside administration as a result of an ASUCR resolution?, no genuine action was taken to [prevent its supply on campus](#);

WHEREAS, Raytheon supplied the Israeli military with approximately \$4 billion in weapons, including Maverick air-to-surface missiles, the TOW missile, and the AIM-9X Sidewinder used in the aforementioned Operation Cast Lead and Operation Protective Edge;

WHEREAS, we note that the latter Operation resulted in the approximate death of between 2,125 to 2,310 Gazan civilians, and between 10,626 to 10,895 civilian injuries, including 3,374 Palestinian children, over 1,000 of whom were left permanently disabled;

WHEREAS, 3M are also known to have provided the IDF with ceramic aircraft armor for Boeing's AH-64 Apache Attack Helicopter during Operations Cast Lead and Protective Edge, respectively;

WHEREAS, Northrop Grumman provided the IDF with the missiles and firing systems used by the IDF to airstrike Gaza, an act which violated international law;

WHEREAS, the subsidiary company of United Tech, Pratt and Whitney, is known to have provided the Israeli Air force with high tech system and aircraft engines;

WHEREAS, Apache helicopters utilized by the IDF in the 2008 - 2009 Operation Cast Lead were manufactured by the Lockheed Martin Corporation, killing 1,394 Palestinians;

WHEREAS, Ford F-150, F-350, and F-550 trucks are used by the Israeli Border Police at the West Bank separation wall and the military blockade of Gaza;

WHEREAS, the West Bank Wall is in violation of the 1948 borders established by UN Resolution 181, and violates the right to freedom of movement of Palestinians, therefore furthering the apartheid agenda and its impact on the Palestinian people;

WHEREAS, Atlas Copco is known to have supplied industrial tools and equipment for the Tel Aviv - Jerusalem train route that cuts through Palestinian territory in multiple areas, furthering the forceful division and segregation of the Palestinian people;

WHEREAS, BlackRock has an invested interest in the continued expansion of illegal Israeli settlements;

Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That The Associated Students of UC Riverside -

- (1) Calls upon the administration of UC Riverside, and of the UC system in its entirety, to recognize the human rights violations committed by the Israeli State and its military against Palestinians;
- (2) Calls upon UC Riverside, and the UC System in its entirety, to remove "Israel" as a location for any and all study abroad programs, in which most Palestinian students can not participate.

- (3) Calls upon UC Riverside, and the UC system in its entirety, to uphold its agreements in signing the UN-supported principles for responsible investment;
- (4) Calls upon UC Riverside, and the UC system in its entirety, to divest from all corporations mentioned above that contribute to the continued violation of Palestinian Human Rights, and all future companies that support Israeli, or any other system of apartheid;
- (5) Calls upon UC Riverside, and the UC system in its entirety, to re-invest in the mental, physical, and emotional well-being of the many UC communities;
- (6) Commits to an annual and consistent renewal of this resolution, in collaboration with the UCR Students for Justice in Palestine.

Cc: UCR Chancellor
Vice Chancellor Student Affairs
Highlander Newspaper

SUBMITTED ON - *April 27, 2022*

COMMITTEE APPROVED ON - *April 29, 2022*

VOTE COUNT - *6-0-0*

SENATE APPROVED ON - *May 4, 2022*

VOTE COUNT - *11-0-1*