Resolution 007
A Resolution to Adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) Working Definition of Antisemitism as an Educational Tool
Sponsored by: Senator Avila
Co-Sponsored by:

Whereas,
The Catholic University of America is committed to fostering an inclusive and safe environment for all students, free from bigotry, discrimination, and hatred;

Whereas,
Antisemitism is a persistent problem in the United States and on college campuses, with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) reporting that hate crimes against Jews constitute the majority of all religious-based hate crimes;[1]

Whereas,
Jewish students at The Catholic University of America have a right to a campus environment devoid of intimidation, harassment, and discrimination;

Whereas,
The International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA), an intergovernmental body of 32 member countries including the United States, was established to "strengthen, advance, and promote Holocaust education, research, and remembrance";[2]

Whereas,
In 2016, the IHRA Plenary adopted a non-legally binding working definition of antisemitism to guide its work and to serve as an educational tool for identifying and tracking antisemitic manifestations;[3]

Whereas,
This working definition has become the most widely accepted definition of antisemitism, adopted and endorsed by over 30 countries, including the U.S. government under both the

[1] See FBI, "Incidents and Offenses," 2022 Hate Crime Statistics.
https://cde.ucr.cjis.gov/LATEST/webapp/#/pages/topic/explorer
[2]International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance, "About the IHRA."
https://www.holocaustremembrance.com/about-ihra
[3]International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance, "Working Definition of Antisemitism."
https://www.holocaustremembrance.com/resources/working-definitions-charters/working-definition-antisemitism

Obama and Biden administrations, as well as the Global Imams Council and hundreds of governmental, educational, and civic institutions;[4]

Whereas,
The IHRA working definition serves as a critical educational tool to help educators, staff, and students identify and intervene against antisemitism, thereby creating a safer and more inclusive campus for Jewish students;[5]

Whereas,
The IHRA working definition reflects the lived experiences of the vast majority of the Jewish community and has their widespread support;[6]

Whereas,
The IHRA working definition explicitly states, "criticism of Israel similar to that leveled against any other country cannot be regarded as antisemitic," thereby protecting free speech and legitimate political discourse;[7]

Be it enacted that,
The Student Government Association (SGA) Senate, acting in its official capacity as the representative of the undergraduate student body of The Catholic University of America, hereby:

1. Formally adopts the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) non-legally binding working definition of antisemitism, including its 11 illustrative examples, as an educational tool to guide its work in combatting antisemitism. The definition reads in full: **"Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities."**

   To guide IHRA in its work, the following examples may serve as illustrations:

   a. Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion.

[4] See "IHRA Lobbying Starter Pack.docx" and International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance, "Adoption and Endorsement."
https://www.holocaustremembrance.com/resources/ihra-working-definition-antisemitism/adoption-endorsement
[5] European Commission, "Handbook for the practical use of the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism," (2021), p. 27.
httpsm://www.holocaustremembrance.com/resources/reports/handbook-practical-use-ihra-working-definition-antisemitism
[6] See "IHRA Talking Points.docx" and "IHRA Senate Packet & FAQs.docx," provided materials. [7]International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance, "Working Definition of Antisemitism."
https://www.holocaustremembrance.com/resources/working-definitions-charters/working-definition-antisemitism

   b. Making mendacious, dehumanizing, demonizing, or stereotypical allegations about Jews as such or the power of Jews as collective — such as especially but not exclusively, the myth about a world Jewish conspiracy or of Jews controlling the media, economy,

government, or other societal institutions.

c. Accusing Jews as a people of being responsible for real or imagined wrongdoing committed by a single Jewish person or group, or even for acts committed by non-Jews.

d. Denying the fact, scope, mechanisms (e.g. gas chambers), or intentionality of the genocide of the Jewish people at the hands of National Socialist Germany and its supporters and accomplices during World War II (the Holocaust).

e. Accusing the Jews as a people, or Israel as a state, of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust.

f. Accusing Jewish citizens of being more loyal to Israel, or to the alleged priorities of Jews worldwide, than to the interests of their own nations.

g. Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination, e.g., by claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavor.

h. Applying double standards by requiring of it a behavior not expected or demanded of any other democratic nation.

i. Using the symbols and images associated with classic antisemitism (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel) to characterize Israel or Israelis.

j. Drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis. k. Holding Jews collectively responsible for actions of the state of Israel. 2. Requests that The Catholic University of America administration utilize this definition as a guiding educational tool to enhance the university's ability to identify and track antisemitic incidents on campus.

3. Requests that this definition be included in relevant training for university staff, administrators, and Department of Public Safety officers to better identify and challenge antisemitic bias and discrimination.

4. Reaffirms that this non-legally binding definition is an educational guide and not a speech code, and its adoption does not diminish or infringe upon any rights to free speech, academic freedom, or the right to engage in criticism of any country as protected by the First Amendment and university policy.

Agreed to by a vote of _____ yeas to _____ nays on this date: _____ with _____ abstaining and _____ not present.

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Michael Kish

President of the Student Government Association

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Catherine Weatherwax

Vice President of the Student Government Association