

## **Condemn terror and stand with Israel: Open letter to President Fenves and Emory administration** by Emory Students in Support of Israel

**Dear President Fenves and the Emory Administration,**

On October 7, Hamas, a designated [terrorist](#) organization, launched an unprovoked [invasion](#) of southern Israel with one mission: to murder Jews. Many are [referring](#) to this attack as Israel's 9/11. While details continue to emerge, we know that a thousand Israelis have already been [murdered](#) and thousands more are wounded. Many are still being held hostage by Hamas terrorists in Gaza. At least 14 Americans have been [killed](#) so far and more are among the hostages. The violence is senseless: from babies [beheaded](#), civilians [mutilated](#) and women [raped](#) in front of their dead friends to the [kidnapping](#) of an elderly Holocaust Survivor into Gaza.

On the most joyous day of the Hebrew Calendar, when Israelis and Jews worldwide celebrate Simchat Torah, the Emory community sees our brothers and sisters in Israel gunned down indiscriminately and systematically. Hamas has maimed Israelis and taken their dead bodies hostage and [paraded](#) on the streets of Gaza.

Emory University undergraduate, graduate, law and medical students, alums, professors and staff stand unapologetically with the only Jewish state in the world. Emory alumni currently serve in the Israel Defense Force (IDF) on the frontlines to protect the Jewish homeland. These are people we know and love; we are fearful for their lives and their safety. A true friend of Israel and the Jewish community is a friend in times of peace and war. Israel is at [war](#), and the Jewish community calls on your friendship.

Emory's administrators have long [called](#) to recognize the importance of fostering a campus environment that values diversity, inclusivity and respect for all students, regardless of national, ethnic or religious background. This must include Jewish and Israeli students. You must stand in solidarity with your community members and send a clear message that they are supported and valued by all members of our university administration.

**An [estimated](#) 30% of Emory's student body identifies as Jewish.** Your silence is an utter disservice and embarrassment. We are unsatisfied with blank statements that do not condemn Hamas or acknowledge the severe trauma our community is undergoing. This is not about the "[cultural, historical, political and ethical dimensions of the region and this conflict.](#)" as Emory College of Arts and Sciences Dean Barbara Krauthamer wrote in an email to College undergraduates earlier today. It simply should not be difficult to condemn terrorism and barbaric violence in a timely manner. Silence during this time is akin to that of the Holocaust.

Peer institutions, such as the [University of Miami](#), [Brandeis University](#), [University of Pennsylvania](#) and [Johns Hopkins University](#), have made univocal, model statements of support for Israel that unequivocally condemned Hamas' actions. The United States, France, Italy, Germany and the UK have also released a [joint statement](#) supporting Israel and condemning Hamas.

Pro-Hamas demonstrators cheered [“Death to Israel” in Tehran](#), [“Gas the Jews”](#) outside the Sydney Opera House and [a New York City protestor held a swastika](#) at anti-Israel demonstrations. This hateful speech now transcends college campuses nationwide. There are currently 45 anti-Israel community rallies and 20 anti-Israel campus rallies this week, the closest one to Emory being just six miles away from us at [Georgia State University](#). **Jewish students do not feel safe on Emory’s campus.**

**As such, we urge Emory to make a university-wide unequivocal statement of support for our ally, Israel, and her right to defend herself. We demand you explicitly condemn Hamas and their terrorist attacks. We urge you to create and publicize support and mental health resources for Jewish students on campus. We urge you to make a genuine and equal effort to support Jewish students as you should for any other group.**

We have made lifelong friends in study abroad programs and internships in Israel. They are in danger. We have family and friends in Israel. They are in danger. As Americans, we are inextricably connected to Israel and the Israeli people. And we need you to elevate our voices. Now.

Emory students will be gathering at the main quad on Wednesday at 5:30 to demonstrate their resolute support for Israel in wake of this tragedy, mourn the lives lost, and pray for the safe return of the hostages taken. Any Emory student, faculty, staff member or alumnus who wishes to sign can comment to add their name on this [document](#).

Thank you.

Signed here by:

**Morgan Ames, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2024**

**Lyndsey Lipson, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2024**

**Rami Fabian, Goizueta Business School, BBA Class of 2025**

**Yuval Assyag, Goizueta Business School, Class of 2024**

**Zoë Teicher Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2027**

**Elaine Abrams, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2026**

**Aliza Freilich, Goizueta Business School, Class of 2025 Jackie Weiss, Emory Law, Class of 2024**

**Molly Estes, Emory Law, Class of 2026**

**Naomi Altman, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2026**

**Gabriella Bonwitt, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2026**

**Cassidy McGoldrick, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2024**

**Zachary Pearlstone, Goizueta Business School, BBA, Class of 2024**

**Emily Berger, Goizueta Business School, Class of 2023**

**Daria Scolnick, Emory College of Arts and Sciences 2024**

**Emma Stonehill, Goizueta Business School, BBA, Class of 2025**

**Jasmine Mail, Goizueta Business School, Class of 2025**

**Austin Qu, Goizueta Business School, Class of 2025**

**Sabrina Schechter, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2026**

**Sophia Polakoff, Goizueta Business School, BBA, Class of 2026**  
**Joe Beare, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2023**  
**Nicole Banhidi, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2024**  
**Maurice Mashiach, Goizueta Business School, BBA Class of 2026**  
**Jack Ottensoser, Goizueta Business School, BBA Class of 2024**  
**Olivia Milch, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2024**  
**Jake Kupferman, Goizueta Business School, Class of 2025**  
**Toby Fuller, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2026**  
**David Pizitz, Goizueta Business School, MBA Class of 2024**  
**Elizabeth Martin, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2025**  
**David Berenfeld, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2026**  
**Nathaniel Yaghoubian, Goizueta Business School, BBA Class of 2025**  
**Luke Hermann, Goizueta Business School, BBA Class of 2024**  
**Mallory Liffman, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2027**  
**Leah Bader, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2023**  
**Cassidy Moskowitz, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2026**  
**Noah Scher, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2025**  
**Maya Evenhaim, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2025**  
**Michael Tanz, Goizueta Business School, BBA Class of 2023**  
**Shirel Levy, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2023**  
**Ezra Arovas, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2022**  
**Danielle Merken, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2025**  
**Melody Hsieh - Alumna, Goizueta Business School Class of 2023**  
**Emma Isaacson, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2026**  
**Yonina Loskove, Emory Laney Graduate School, Class of 2020**  
**Joshua Richards, Emory Law, Class of 2023**  
**Ainsley Freedman, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2027**  
**Ellie Parker, Emory Law, Class of 2023**  
**Ari Gordin, Emory Law, Class of 2023**  
**Jacob Lille, Emory Law, Class of 2023**  
**Nathaniel Hyman, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2024**  
**Jake Meyer, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2024**  
**Sarah Pretsky, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2025**  
**Margalit Mermelstein, Goizueta Business School, BBA Class of 2025**  
**Lucy New, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2026**  
**Sam Schmucl, School of Law 2024**  
**Aaron Thaler, Goizueta Business School, BBA Class of 2023**  
**Sara Hanna, Emory College of Arts and Science, Class of 2027**  
**Jake Golden, Goizueta Business School, BBA Class of 2026**  
**Yael Abergel, Goizueta Business School, BBA Class of 2026**  
**Bernard Clevens, MBA Class of 2022**  
**Alexa Charak, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2022**  
**Ari Dvorkin, Goizueta Business School, BBA Class of 2025**  
**Annabelle Enig, Goizueta Business School, BBA Class of 2025**  
**Ben Goldman, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2026**  
**Zoe Price, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2025**

**Jonathan Davidoff, Goizueta Business School and Emory College Class of 1994!**  
**Benjamin Falk, Goizueta Business School, BBA Class of 2024**  
**Adam Goldenberg, Goizueta Business School, BBA Class of 2021**  
**Jonathan Davidoff, Goizueta Business School and Emory College Class of 1994**  
**Lee Mendelson, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 1997**  
**Diana Bender-Bier, College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2018**  
**Caitlin Ludwig, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2027**  
**Natalie David, School of Medicine Class of 2026**  
**Maya Singer, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2025**  
**Renee Rittner, Emory College Class of 1994**  
**Ellie Coe, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2022**  
**Jared Tencer, Goizueta Business School MBA Class of 2023**  
**Jonathan Poss, Goizueta Business School, Class of 2025**  
**Lucy Adelman, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2024**  
**Noah Stifelman, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2027**  
**Rori Spielman, School of Nursing, BSN, Class of 2022**  
**Raphael Haddad, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2027**  
**Matt Friedman, Goizueta Business School, BBA Class of 1994**  
**Karyn Lisker, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2024**  
**Blake Shapiro, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 1994**  
**Asher Ades, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2018**  
**David Katz, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 1990**  
**Sydney Lampert, Goizueta Business School, BBA, Class of 2012**  
**Josh Small, Goizueta Business School, BBA, Class of 2020**  
**Matthew Jacobs, Goizueta Business School, BBA, Class of 2020**  
**Justin Bier, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2020, Goizueta Business School, MSBA 2021**  
**Jakob Bloomfield, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2020**  
**Eric Mercer, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 1994**  
**Alex Wagner, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2020**  
**Jana Keating, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Class of 2009**  
**Hunter Goldberg, Goizueta Business School, Class of 2021**