



APPROVED 11/ 18/2020

## **Resolution in Support of Divestment from Human Rights Violations**

**WHEREAS**, the students at San Francisco State University, and Associated Students (AS) as their representative body, have a rich history of standing up for social justice and equity; and

**WHEREAS**, international organizations such as Human Rights Watch and the United Nations have documented incidents that amount to war crimes committed by Israel [1]; and

**WHEREAS**, Israeli government violations of human rights and international law have been recognized and condemned by the international community including by the UN General Assembly in dozens of resolutions (i.e.: 106, 111, 162, 171, 228, 248, 250252, 256, 259, 262, 265, 267, 270, 271, 279, 280, 285, 298, 313, 316, 317, 332, 337, 347, 425, 427, 444, 446, 450,452, 465, 467469, 471, 476, 478, 484, 487, 497, 498, 501, 509, 515, 517, 518, 520, 573, 587, 592, 605, 607, 608, 636, 641, 672, 673, 681, 694, 726, 799, etc.), by the UN Security Council, by the International Court of Justice's 2004 Advisory Opinion on the Route of the Separation Barrier in the West Bank, and the Human Rights Council FactFinding Mission to Gaza; and

**WHEREAS**, the United Nations published a database of companies with business ties to Israeli settlements in the West Bank in a global effort to ensure businesses end complicity in rights abuse and respect international law; and

**WHEREAS**, San Francisco State's investment in these companies would show implicit support for human rights violations; and

**WHEREAS**, international humanitarian law recognizes the right of all people, including Palestinians, to life, security [3], and of all peoples to political and economic self-determination; and

**WHEREAS**, Israel has been recognized by international law since 1967 as an occupying power in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and Gaza [5], hereafter referred to as

the Occupied Palestinian Territories; and

**WHEREAS**, these investments harm San Francisco State's Palestinian, Arab, and Muslim students, many of whom have families who currently live under Israeli occupation, or are descendants of Palestinians who have been killed or forcibly relocated as a result of Israel's occupation of Palestine; and

**WHEREAS**, this resolution is a non-violent call for targeted divestment from multinational corporations causing substantial social injury, violating international humanitarian law in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, regardless of which countries contract said corporations; and

**WHEREAS**, our peers in many university student associations, including San Jose State University, CSU Long Beach, CSU East Bay, De Anza Community College, Wesleyan University, Oberlin College, DePaul University, Evergreen State College, UC Irvine, UC Berkeley, UC Riverside, UC San Diego, UCLA, UC Davis, and Stanford University have passed resolutions calling for divestment from companies that violate international law and human rights in the Occupied Palestinian Territories; therefore, let it be

**RESOLVED**, the Associated Students at San Francisco State University, exercising its representative authority on behalf of all students, calls upon and will work to ensure the SF State Foundation, University Corporation, and all other campus auxiliaries ~~trustees to~~ review their investments and ensure no investment exists in companies that violate international humanitarian law by any of the following:

1. Maintain the illegal infrastructure of the Israeli occupation, in particular, settlements and separation walls.
2. Facilitate Israel's collective punishment of Palestinian citizens.
3. Facilitate state repression against Palestinians by Israeli security forces; and

**RESOLVED**, Associated Students of San Francisco State University calls upon and will work to ensure the SF State Foundation, University Corporation, and all other campus auxiliaries of San Francisco State University withdrawal investments in securities, endowments, mutual funds, and other monetary instruments with holdings in all corporations that are complicit in violating these criteria, at such time and in such manner as to be determined by these organizations with the goal of maintaining the divestment until they cease these specific practices deemed as unethical by the San Francisco community; let it be

**RESOLVED**, Associated Students of San Francisco State University calls upon and will work to ensure the SF State Foundation, University Corporation, and all other campus auxiliaries

to prevent future investments in corporations deemed complicit in the violation of Palestinian human rights; let it be

**RESOLVED**, that the copies of this resolution are made public and distributed widely, including but not limited to the following: **Lynn Mahoney** (President, SFSU), **Jeff Wilson** (Interim VP of Administration & Finance, CFO, SFSU), **Jeff Jackanicz** (President, SF State Foundation), **Jason Porth** (Executive Director, University Corporation, SF State), and **Tonee Sherrill** (Executive Director, Associated Students).

[1]

<https://www.hrw.org/report/2009/03/25/rain-fire/israels-unlawful-use-white-phosphorus-gaza> [2]

<https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/112-companies-linked-illegal-israeli-settlements-un>

[3] <https://www.un.org/en/documents/udhr/>

[4] UN General Assembly, International Covenant on Civil & Political Rights, 16 December 1966, United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 999, p. 171, available at:

<http://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6b3aa0.html>

[5] Geneva Convention, UN, Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch