

**Resolution in Support of the Palestinian People
June 10, 2021**

Whereas, as an academic labor union committed to anti-racism, academic freedom, and international solidarity among workers, the PSC-CUNY cannot be silent about the continued subjection of Palestinians to the state-supported displacement, occupation, and use of lethal force by Israel; and

Whereas, beginning on May 15, 2021, the escalating violence against Palestinians in East Jerusalem and Gaza killed hundreds of Palestinians, injured thousands more, and destroyed entire neighborhoods, including hospitals, schools, and residences; and

Whereas, on May 18, 2021, Palestinian workers across the region staged a general “strike for dignity” as a demonstration of unity and support for the residents of targeted communities; and

Whereas, Israel’s pattern and practice of dispossession and expansion of settlements, dating back to its establishment as a settler colonial state in 1948, has been found to be illegal under international law, international human rights organizations such as Human Rights Watch and B’Tselem have designated these practices of Israel as “apartheid” and a regime of legalized racial discrimination perpetrated against the Palestinian people; and the International Criminal Court has opened an investigation into these practices; and

Whereas, the PSC-CUNY condemns racism in all forms, including anti-Semitism, and recognizes that criticisms of Israel, a diverse nation-state, are not inherently anti-Semitic; and

Whereas, state-sponsored policies of settler colonialism link the Palestinian struggle for self-determination to the struggles of Indigenous people and people of color in the United States; and

Whereas, since World War II, Israel has been the largest overall recipient of U.S. foreign aid, including \$3.8 billion in 2020, the vast majority of which was military assistance; and

Whereas, by failing to challenge the U.S. government’s support for Israeli expansionism and violent incursions in the occupied territories, U.S. labor organizations have largely given approval to these policies; and

Whereas, in 2016, the PSC-CUNY “Resolution on the Freedom of Speech and Assembly for All Faculty, Staff and Students at the City University of New York” affirmed the right of faculty, staff, and students to advocate for campaigns of boycott, divestment, and sanctions without penalty, as protected freedom of speech; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the PSC-CUNY condemns the massacre of Palestinians by the Israeli state; and be it further

RESOLVED, that in fall 2021, the PSC-CUNY facilitate discussions at the chapter level of the content of this resolution and consider PSC support of the 2005 call for Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS)—a movement launched by 170 Palestinian unions, refugee networks, women’s

47 organizations, professional associations and other Palestinian civil society organizations, which
48 calls on "people of conscience in the international community" to act as they did against
49 apartheid South Africa "in the spirit of international solidarity, moral consistency and resistance
50 to injustice and oppression"—and report back on these conversations to the Delegate Assembly
51 by the end of 2021; and be it further

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53 **RESOLVED**, that the PSC-CUNY calls on the administration of U.S. President Joe Biden to
54 stop all aid funding human rights violations and an occupation that is illegal under international
55 law.