

On the Critical Assessment of Institutional Cooperation with Academic Institutions in Israel/Palestine

Resolution of the German Association of Social and Cultural Anthropology (GASCA)

I. Purpose

The GASCA affirms its commitment to academic freedom and declares its solidarity with academics—Israelis and Palestinians alike—whose lives, rights, and scholarly work are threatened by violence, repression, or insufficient legal protection. This statement aims to help members make situated judgments about their professional collaborations with Israeli and Palestinian academic institutions and scholars, recognizing that institutional contexts and conditions of co-operation differ and require careful assessment, in the interest of upholding international law, protecting academic freedom for all, and expressing solidarity with those facing violence or repression. This document does not call for blanket suspensions of cooperation, as national, institutional, and even departmental positions are not monolithic. In this respect, the statement remains consistent with GASCA's prior commitments to differentiation, academic freedom, and the rejection of collective attributions of guilt. Rather, it encourages scholars to undertake critical and systematic reviews of specific institutional relationships and situations and to draw on these assessments when making informed, case-by-case decisions about whether and how to engage in particular forms of academic cooperation. The guiding question is which forms of cooperation can be considered professionally, ethically, and legally justifiable, including with respect to constitutional and other applicable legal norms. In contexts of violent conflict and repression, decisions about which academic cooperations to prioritize, strengthen, limit, or refrain from may constitute a strategic means of supporting academics subjected to oppression, censorship, military or paramilitary violence, who are prevented from exercising their fundamental right to academic freedom or from participating on equal terms.

This statement examines violations of international law and the associated threats to academic freedom in Israel/Palestine, highlighting how overlapping institutions, security policies, and political pressures shape these harms. This focused application in no way excludes a comparable assessment in other contexts where similar structural conditions arise.

II. Ethical-Legal Consistency and International Precedents

In recent years, academic associations and research institutions have increasingly reflected on the ethical and legal responsibilities involved in international institutional cooperation in contexts marked by armed conflict, military occupation, or systematic violations of international law. Across different geopolitical situations, such reflections have led to the reassessment or suspension of institutional partnerships while continuing to affirm support for individual scholars and the principle of academic freedom. This has included debates and decisions concerning institutional cooperation in a range of conflict-affected settings, including Israel/Palestine, as documented in resolutions, policy statements, and review processes adopted by academic associations and higher-education institutions in various countries.¹

Within international academia, these developments do not establish uniform prescriptions for action and evaluation, nor do they suggest that distinct political and historical situations are identical. Rather,

¹ See, for example: European Association of Social Anthropologists (2024). *Resolutions and policy statements*. <https://easamembers4palestine.wordpress.com/>; American Anthropological Association. *Referendum on Proposed Resolution to Boycott Israeli Academic Institutions*. <https://www.americananthro.org/wp-content/uploads/ReferendumOnProposedResolutionToBoycottIsraeliAcademicInstitutions.pdf>. Review processes initiated by higher-education institutions in Belgium and the Netherlands concerning institutional cooperation with Israeli universities.

they indicate a shared concern that institutional cooperation is not ethically or legally neutral where partner institutions are structurally implicated in serious violations of international law or the erosion of the rules-based international order. In European and international academic contexts, similar considerations informed restrictions and suspensions of institutional cooperation with apartheid South Africa and, more recently, suspensions of institutional cooperation with Russian universities following Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, including by numerous German universities, funding agencies, and academic associations.² Such measures were justified by reference to the use of military force in violation of international law, attacks on the rules-based international order, and breaches of territorial integrity. While political and historical circumstances differ, the relevance of these criteria is not confined to a single case.

A consistent application of ethical and legal standards across different conflict contexts does not entail treating those contexts as equivalent, nor does it predetermine specific outcomes. Rather, it reflects a commitment to evaluating institutional cooperation according to general principles of international law, academic freedom, and institutional responsibility, while remaining attentive to contextual specificities and avoiding blanket or indiscriminate measures. On this basis, it is both legitimate and necessary to consider the application of comparable standards in the Israel/Palestine context.

The following assessment represents one application of the general framework outlined in the accompanying statement "On international scientific cooperation in contexts of systematic violations of international law" and does not preclude its use in other contexts where comparable conditions arise.

III. Non-judgment and anti-discrimination

This assessment does not constitute a judgment on individual scholars, nor does it target or imply hostility toward Israeli society, Jewish life, or Jewish academic institutions. The GASCA condemns all killings of civilians, military aggression, and violence, including the massacre of 7 October 2023 and all previous and subsequent acts of terror. The GASCA firmly rejects antisemitism in all its forms (see statements dated 17 November 2023, 12 February 2024, and 29 August 2024), as well as anti-Palestinian and anti-Muslim racism. Criticism of current Israeli government policies and institutions must not be conflated with antisemitism when it reflects a commitment to universal human rights principles and international law. Disputes surrounding the Israel/Palestine conflict cannot be understood solely through theories of antisemitism or critiques of such theories alone; it is both

² German Rectors' Conference (Hochschulrektorenkonferenz, HRK), "Consequences for German-Russian Higher Education Cooperation" (2022), <https://www.hrk.de/activities/impact-of-the-war-in-ukraine/consequences-for-german-russian-higher-education-cooperation/>; Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), "DFG Takes Steps in Response to Russian Attack on Ukraine" (2022), <https://www.dfg.de/en/service/press/press-releases/2022/press-release-no-01>; University of Augsburg, "Solidarity with Ukraine" (2022), <https://www.uni-augsburg.de/en/campusleben/neuigkeiten/2022/02/28/5941/>; Brandenburg University of Technology (BTU) Cottbus-Senftenberg, "BTU temporarily suspends all cooperation with universities and scientific institutions in Russia" (2022), <https://www.b-tu.de/en/news/article/20422-die-btu-setzt-vorlaeufig-alle-kooperationen-mit-russischen-hochschulen-und-ausseruniversitaeren-forschungseinrichtungen-aus>; Allianz der Wissenschaftsorganisationen (2022), "Alliance of Science Organisations in Germany: Solidarity with partners in Ukraine – consequences for science and the humanities," <https://www.allianz-der-wissenschaftsorganisationen.de/en/topics-statements/solidarity-with-partners-in-ukraine/>; Zentrum für Osteuropa- und internationale Studien (2022), "War on Ukraine and cooperation with partners in Russia," <https://www.zois-berlin.de/en/about-us/news/war-on-ukraine-and-cooperation-with-partners-in-russia>; Deutscher Bibliotheksverband (2022), "The German Library Association stands in solidarity with Ukraine: Recommendations for cooperation with Russian institutions," https://www.bibliotheksverband.de/sites/default/files/2022-03/2022_03_07_dbv%20statement%20Ukraine%20cooperation%20Russian%20insitutitons_english_final.pdf; European University Association (2022), "EUA suspends membership of 12 Russian universities following statement by university leaders," <https://www.eua.eu/news/eua-news/eua-suspends-membership-of-12-russian-universities-following-statement-by-university-leaders.html>

necessary and legitimate to consider the historical, political, religious, cultural, economic, ethnic, and national dimensions of the conflict. The exclusion of academics who exercise their freedom of science and expression, as enshrined in the German Constitution, must not become a means of conducting debates; on the contrary, such exclusions prevent necessary debates from taking place.

IV. Evidence-based assessment of violations of international law

Scholarly cooperation in Israel/Palestine—as elsewhere—must be marked by adherence to international legal standards and the protection of civilian life. The following assessment draws on findings from international courts, United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations, and recognized human rights and scholarly bodies.

International jurisdiction and UN bodies:

- **26 January 2024, International Court of Justice (ICJ):** Acting under the Genocide Convention, the Court found plausible claims on behalf of Palestinians in Gaza, noting real and imminent risks of irreparable harm. Israel was ordered to adopt provisional measures to prevent prohibited acts and enable humanitarian assistance.³
- **20 May 2024, International Criminal Court (ICC):** The Prosecutor has sought arrest warrants related to alleged war crimes and crimes against humanity in the Gaza war, including allegations against both Israeli and Hamas actors. These applications remain subject to judicial determination.⁴
- **August 2025, Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Famine Review Committee:** Confirmed a famine (IPC Phase 5) in Gaza Governorate, with projected expansion to Deir al-Balah and Khan Younis, in the context of prolonged conflict and severe disruption of food access and services.⁵
- **September 2025, UN Independent International Commission of Inquiry:** The Commission concluded that there are reasonable grounds to conclude that Israel has committed acts of genocide against Palestinians in Gaza.⁶

Documentation by human rights and scientific organizations:

- **July 2025, B'Tselem:** The Israeli human rights organization published a report, “Our Genocide,” documenting alleged violations of international law by Israeli forces in Gaza.⁷
- **December 2024, Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch:** Concluded that Israeli policies and actions in Gaza meet the legal definition of genocide under the UN Genocide Convention.⁸
- **August 2025, International Association of Genocide Scholars (IAGS):** Passed a resolution stating that Israel’s policies and actions in Gaza meet the criteria for genocide under the UN Genocide Convention.⁹

³ International Court of Justice (ICJ). <https://www.icj-cij.org/node/203447>

⁴ International Criminal Court (ICC). <https://www.icc-cpi.int/news/statement-icc-prosecutor-karim-aa-khan-kc-applications-arrest-warrants-situation-state>

⁵ IPC Famine Review Committee (2025). https://www.ipcinfo.org/fileadmin/user_upload/ipcinfo/docs/IPC_Famine_Review_Committee_Report_Gaza_Aug2025.pdf

⁶ UN Human Rights Council (2025). <https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/hrbodies/hrcouncil/sessions-regular/session60/advance-version/a-hrc-60-crp-3.pdf>

⁷ B'Tselem (2025). Our Genocide. https://www.btselem.org/publications/202507_our_genocide

⁸ Amnesty International (2024). <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2024/12/amnesty-international-concludes-israel-is-committing-genocide-against-palestinians-in-gaza/>

Human Rights Watch (2024). <https://www.hrw.org/report/2024/12/19/extermination-and-acts-genocide/israel-deliberately-depriving-palestinians-gaza>

⁹ International Association of Genocide Scholars (2025). <https://genocidescholars.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/IAGS-Resolution-on-Gaza-FINAL.pdf>

Systematic violations of international law include:

- **Illegal Occupation:** The European Union and the ICJ Advisory Opinion (19 July 2024) concluded that Israel's continued presence and settlement activity in the occupied Palestinian territory are unlawful under international law.¹⁰
- **Prolonged Blockade of Gaza:** UN agencies report that the blockade, in place since 2007, severely restricts essential supplies (food, fuel, medicine) and humanitarian access, contributing to acute humanitarian needs.
- **Segregationist and Discriminatory Policies:** Analyses by Amnesty International (2022) and B'Tselem (2021) conclude that Israeli laws, policies, and practices toward Palestinians constitute a system of discriminatory policies under international law, involving systematic oppression and domination.¹¹
- **Extensive Damage to Education Infrastructure:** Conflict-related hostilities have severely disrupted education. In Gaza, over 650,000 school-aged children and 87,000 higher-education students have lost access to formal learning. Thousands of students and teachers have been killed or injured; nearly 92 % of schools and over 60 university buildings require extensive repair, with more than 2,300 educational facilities damaged or destroyed.¹²
- **Ongoing civilian casualties and attacks on civilian infrastructure:** UN reporting documents the continued killing and injuring of Palestinian civilians in Gaza, including hundreds of casualties reported since the latest ceasefire, and tens of thousands overall since October 2023. Reports describe airstrikes, shelling, and other hostilities affecting homes, tents, and schools serving as shelters.¹³

Systematic Constraints on Palestinian academic freedom:

Palestinian education and research are severely constrained by military violence, restricted movement, unequal access to educational resources, attacks on institutions, and harassment or intimidation of scholars and students. These conditions constitute sustained violations of the right to education and academic freedom.

V. Institutional Entanglement of Israeli Universities with State Policies

Critics and analysts have documented that some Israeli universities are structurally involved in or entangled with the Israeli military and security sectors and subject to pressures that constrain academic freedom, raising concerns about the independence and ethical scope of scholarly activity. Israeli higher-education institutions located in territories occupied since June 1967, including the West Bank, East Jerusalem, and the Golan Heights, are treated differently under the EU's eligibility guidelines for EU-funded grants and prizes, which specify that entities carrying out activities in those

¹⁰ European Commission (2013). <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52013XC0719%2803%29>

International Court of Justice (2024). Advisory Opinion. <https://www.icj-cij.org/sites/default/files/case-related/186/186-20240719-adv-01-00-en.pdf>

¹¹ Amnesty International (2022). Report "Israel's Apartheid against Palestinians." <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde15/5141/2022/en/>

B'Tselem (2021). https://www.btselem.org/publications/fulltext/202101_this_is_apartheid

¹² UN Commission of Inquiry (2025).

<https://www.un.org/unispal/document/report-of-the-independent-international-commission-of-inquiry-on-the-occupied-palestinian-territory-including-east-jerusalem-and-israel-a-hrc-59-26/>

OCHA (2025).

https://www.ochaopt.org/sites/default/files/Gaza_Reported_Impact_Snapshot_1_October_2025.pdf

¹³ OCHA (2025). <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/humanitarian-situation-update-306-gaza-strip>

UNRWA (2025). <https://www.unrwa.org/resources/reports/unrwa-situation-report-201-situation-gaza-strip-and-west-bank-including-east-jerusalem>

areas are ineligible for EU support. This is based on the EU's non-recognition of Israeli sovereignty there under international law.¹⁴

Collaborations with the Military and Security Sectors:

- **Expert Committee on Israeli-Dutch Academic Ties (2025):** The authors reported ethical and structural concerns regarding collaborations between Dutch and Israeli universities, noting risks of complicity with serious human rights violations.¹⁵
- **Collaborations with Defense and Security Sectors:** Analysts indicate that several leading Israeli universities (Technion, Hebrew University, Ben Gurion University, Tel Aviv University) maintain joint programs with the arms industry and, in some cases, provide training or research support relevant to military projects.¹⁶
- **Academic Presence in Contested Areas:** International legal and academic bodies, including the World Archaeology Congress, note that Israeli settlements in occupied Palestinian territory are considered illegal under international law, and some university-linked programs involve these areas.¹⁷ Several Israeli institutions (including the Hebrew University of Jerusalem¹⁸) conduct academic activities in these areas and, in the case of Ariel University, maintain an entire campus in an illegal settlement in the occupied Palestinian territories.¹⁹

Constraints on Israeli Academic Freedom

- **Legislative Threats to Academic Freedom:** Draft legislation debated in the Knesset in summer 2024 would allow dismissal of university staff for expressing views deemed “support for terror,” raising concerns about the politicization of academic speech.²⁰

¹⁴ European Commission (2013). <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52013XC0719%2803%29>

¹⁵ Academic Ties Israel (2025). <https://academictiesisrael.nl> OCHA (2025). <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/gaza-humanitarian-response-update-30-march-12-april-2025>

¹⁶ Psagot. 2026. “Psagot Program for Technological Excellence.” <https://www.psagot.site/>
Ministry of Defense (Israel) (2019). Havatzalot Program. <https://mod.gov.il/%D7%9B%D7%AA%D7%91%D7%95%D7%AA-%D7%95%D7%9E%D7%91%D7%96%D7%A7%D7%99%D7%9D/%D7%97%D7%93%D7%A9%D7%95%D7%AA-%D7%9E%D7%A9%D7%A8%D7%93-%D7%94%D7%91%D7%99%D7%98%D7%97%D7%95%D7%9F/%D7%94%D7%90%D7%95%D7%A0%D7%99%D7%91%D7%A8%D7%A1%D7%99%D7%98%D7%94-%D7%94%D7%A2%D7%91%D7%A8%D7%99%D7%AA-%D7%AA%D7%95%D7%91%D7%99%D7%9C-%D7%90%D7%AA-%D7%AA%D7%95%D7%9B%D7%A0%D7%99%D7%AA-%D7%97%D7%91%D7%A6%D7%9C%D7%95%D7%AA>

Meitav (2026). Arazim Program. <https://araz.im/>

Technion: Israel Institute of Technology (2025). Silon Excellence Program.

<https://aerospace.technion.ac.il/studies/ug-studies/excellence-programs/silon-excellence-program/>

ECC Palestine. <https://www.eccpalestine.org/beyond-dual-use-israeli-universities-role-in-the-military-security-industrial-complex/>

¹⁷ World Archaeological Congress. <https://worldarchaeologicalcongress.com/blog/world-archaeological-congress-statement-on-exclusion-of-ariel-university-affiliated-scholar-from-wac-10/#:~:text=Israeli%20settlements%20in%20the%20occupied&text=Ariel%20University%2C%20by%20virtue%20of%20being%20situated,illegal%20settlement%2C%20is%20itself%20an%20illegal%20institution>

¹⁸ Critical Legal Thinking. <https://criticallegalthinking.com/2017/11/23/statement-against-holding-esil-at-the-hebrew-university/>

¹⁹ World Archaeological Congress. <https://worldarchaeologicalcongress.com/blog/world-archaeological-congress-statement-on-exclusion-of-ariel-university-affiliated-scholar-from-wac-10/#:~:text=Israeli%20settlements%20in%20the%20occupied&text=Ariel%20University%2C%20by%20virtue%20of%20being%20situated,illegal%20settlement%2C%20is%20itself%20an%20illegal%20institution>

²⁰ The Guardian (2024). <https://www.theguardian.com/world/article/2024/jul/21/draft-israeli-law-to-limit-academic-speech-labelled-mccarthyite>

- **Disciplinary Actions Against Critical Scholars:** Critics report that some academic staff and students who publicly criticize government policy or military actions have faced disciplinary measures, investigations, or employment consequences.²¹
- **Chilling Effects and Self-Censorship:** Commentators suggest that emergency regulations and a climate of repression since October 2023 have prompted self-censorship, scrutiny, and avoidance of politically sensitive research topics, potentially undermining open scholarly inquiry.²²

Summary Remark on Academic Freedom in Israel/Palestine

Academic freedom in the context of Israel/Palestine is under threat for multiple reasons and for members of all social groups. Palestinian students, scholars and institutions face systemic constraints due to military violence, occupation, and structural inequalities. Israeli academics encounter pressures from state and military entanglements, legislative threats, and social or institutional surveillance. These parallel processes—arising from overlapping institutions, security policies, and political structures—suggest that the same dynamics that produce legal violations against Palestinians also restrict academic freedom within Israeli society.

VI. German and European Shared Responsibility

In evaluating institutional cooperation, it is important that members consider the broader German and European political and institutional contexts within which such cooperation is embedded, and, in doing so, also take into account the responsibility of Germany and Europe for the violations of human rights and international law outlined above, including:

- **Weapons Exports:** Germany is the second-largest exporter of weapons to Israel and has continued these exports even amid documented allegations of war crimes in Gaza.
- **Diplomatic Protection:** The German federal government has systematically granted diplomatic protection to successive Israeli governments, shielding them from accountability for alleged violations of international law.
- **Institutional Cooperation:** German universities and research institutions maintain numerous formal and informal institutional partnerships with Israeli institutions.
- **European Research Funding:** Israel is closely integrated into the European research funding landscape through the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (Horizon Europe).

As a result, public funds from Germany and other EU member states flow into institutional structures that, according to the sources cited above, are structurally entangled with policies and practices implicated in serious violations of international law.

VII. Recommendations: Guidelines for the Critical Assessment of Institutional Cooperation, Including Conditional Suspension and Reinstatement

Based on the principles, considerations, and empirical assessments outlined above, GASCA recommends that its members critically assess institutional cooperation with Israeli universities and research institutions. Critical assessment is understood as a structured and reflective process through

²¹ The Guardian (2024). <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2024/jan/13/it-is-a-time-of-witch-hunts-in-israel-teacher-held-in-solitary-confinement-for-posting-concern-about-gaza-deaths>

The Guardian (2024). <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2024/apr/26/political-arrest-palestinian-academic-nadera-shalhoub-kevorkian-israel-civil-liberties-threat>

²² Times Higher Education (2025). <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/opinion/israel-hamas-war-killing-academic-freedom>

which members evaluate the legal, ethical, and institutional implications of continued cooperation with academic institutions in Israel/Palestine. Such a review must include publicly documented violations of international human rights and humanitarian law, while also taking into account the diversity of institutional structures and practices, recognizing that different institutions and units may be differently situated in relation to the concerns outlined above.

Such an assessment may lead to different outcomes, including the continuation, modification, reprioritization, strategic redirection, or conditional suspension of institutional cooperation. In some cases, such an assessment may support the decision to suspend institutional cooperation where there is a credible risk that continued cooperation materially contributes to, or risks symbolically legitimizing, violations of international law. In this sense, suspension may function as a conditional, preventive, and reversible safeguard for academic integrity, ethical responsibility, and solidarity with scholars affected by violence and repression. It is targeted and proportionate in scope, rather than punitive or blanket in nature. Any decision to suspend institutional cooperation should remain subject to ongoing review in light of changing circumstances and updated evidence.

Accordingly, any modification of institutional collaboration—including possible suspension—must be understood as conditional, preventive, and reversible. Institutional cooperation may be reconsidered once it can be credibly established, on the basis of publicly available evidence, that the institution in question has demonstrably:

1. Ended its material or structural involvement in documented violations of international human rights and humanitarian law;
2. Revised policies or practices that contribute to unequal access to education and taken demonstrable steps to ensure equal academic opportunities and resources for Palestinians;
3. Distanced itself from activities contributing to the destruction or impairment of Palestinian educational infrastructure, and supported efforts toward its reconstruction;
4. Distanced itself from disciplinary measures or investigations against critical researchers, creating instead spaces of open scholarly inquiry and academic freedom.

For the purposes of this resolution, institutional cooperation should be critically assessed with regard to potential forms of structural entanglement with human rights violations and violations of international law. Such an assessment includes, but is not limited to, the following forms of cooperation:

- Joint research projects and third-party funding applications conducted under institutional agreements
- Institutional partnerships, memoranda of understanding, and framework agreements
- Joint publications appearing in journals, working paper series, reports, or online platforms that are institutionally affiliated with entities that are structurally or systematically involved in violations of international law
- Institutionally administered exchange and mobility programs
- Membership in formal inter-institutional scientific associations
- Cooperation with publishers and publication infrastructures institutionally affiliated with entities that are structurally or systematically involved in violations of international law

This recommendation does not apply to the following forms of academic engagement:

- Collaboration with individual Israeli researchers who are not formally representing institutions whose institutional cooperation has been suspended
- Employment of individual Israeli researchers at scientific institutions in Germany or in German-funded research projects, provided they are not formally representing institutions whose institutional cooperation has been suspended

- Participation of individual Israeli researchers in conferences, workshops, and other scientific events, provided they are not formally representing institutions whose institutional cooperation has been suspended
- Co-authorship with individual Israeli researchers, provided they are not formally representing institutions whose institutional cooperation has been suspended
- Personal scientific networks and exchanges with individual Israeli researchers (e.g., conferences, workshops, and other professional interactions), provided they are not formally representing institutions whose institutional cooperation has been suspended

For the purposes of this resolution, “formally representing institutions whose institutional cooperation has been suspended” refers to acting in an official leadership, governance, or delegated spokesperson capacity on behalf of that institution (e.g., as a rector, president, dean, chair, or authorized representative). Mere institutional affiliation (e.g., as a professor, lecturer, researcher, or student) does not constitute formal representation of an institution whose institutional cooperation has been suspended. GASCA explicitly rejects any expectation that scholars work without institutional affiliation or outside established frameworks of academic attribution and recognition.

VIII. Solidarity and Support for Scholars Affected by Violence and Repression

The GASCA affirms its commitment to academic freedom, intellectual autonomy, and the protection of scholars in all contexts of violence and repression. This commitment extends to all scholars in the region, including Palestinians subjected to systemic oppression, harassment, and military violence, as well as Israeli scholars who face targeting, silencing, or professional sanctions for their scholarly work or for the expression of legitimate political opinions. All scholars must be able to pursue research, teaching, and public debate without fear of reprisal, censorship, or physical harm.

Accordingly, the GASCA declares its solidarity with:

- Palestinian scientists, students, and educational institutions operating under occupation, discrimination, and direct violence, whose academic infrastructure has been systematically damaged or destroyed
- Israeli scientists and students who are subjected to repression, harassment, or professional penalties for criticizing state policies or opposing violence and occupation
- All researchers in the region who are committed to human rights, academic freedom, justice, and an end to the occupation

Recognizing the asymmetrical and severe damage inflicted on Palestinian education and research institutions and infrastructure in the recent and ongoing conflict, GASCA calls for active measures of support, including but not limited to efforts to:

- **Promote guest stays, scholarships, and dedicated research funding** for Palestinian scholars and students displaced by violence and war
- **Provide resources for the reconstruction and rehabilitation** of Palestinian educational and research infrastructure affected by the war in Gaza
- **Establish direct and sustained cooperation** with Palestinian universities and research centers in order to support institutional recovery and long-term academic capacity

Recognizing the constraints on academic freedom and the increasing political pressure faced by critical scholars and institutions in Israel, GASCA also encourages active measures of support, including efforts to:

- **Promote guest stays, scholarships, and research funding** for Israeli scholars and students facing political repression or restrictions on their scholarly work due to dissenting political positions
- **Establish and support cooperation** with Israeli institutions, academic groups, and initiatives that are actively and explicitly committed to the principles underlying GASCA's Guidelines for Reinstatement of Institutional Cooperation, in order to strengthen critical scholarly voices subject to harassment or political pressure.

IX. Implementation and Review

Democratic Legitimacy

This statement is adopted by the General Assembly of GASCA and shall remain in force unless amended or revoked by the General Assembly. Decisions regarding its continuation, modification, or repeal rest exclusively with the General Assembly.

Role of the GASCA Executive Board

The GASCA Executive Board does not review, approve, or prohibit specific institutional or individual academic collaborations undertaken by GASCA members or their affiliated institutions. The Executive Board oversees and bears full responsibility for its own collaborations, in accordance with GASCA's statutes and resolutions. Beyond this, the Executive Board's role is limited to articulating principles, providing guidance, and facilitating informed deliberation among members.

Member Responsibility

Responsibility for assessing, initiating, continuing, modifying, or suspending specific forms of academic cooperation rests with individual GASCA members and their respective institutions. Members are expected to:

- Exercise their own professional and ethical judgment
- Take into account the principles set out in this statement, related GASCA guidelines, and applicable national, European, and international legal frameworks
- Assume full responsibility for their decisions regarding academic cooperation

Reinstatement and Review Procedure

Proposals to amend, revoke, or reconsider the recommendations in this statement may be initiated by:

- The GASCA Executive Board, or
- Any GASCA member, in accordance with the association's statutes

Any proposal to amend or revoke the recommendations contained in this statement shall be decided by the General Assembly.

Scope and Limits

In implementing this statement, GASCA does not assume the role of a judicial, regulatory, or intergovernmental authority and does not independently determine compliance with international law. Its engagement is limited to matters that bear directly on academic freedom, institutional responsibility, and the ethical conditions of scientific cooperation.

X. Scientific Integrity, Consistency, and Political Responsibility

This resolution affirms GASCA's statement on the ethical foundations of social and cultural anthropological research and on the protection of human life, dignity, and scholarly freedom. As social and cultural anthropologists, we recognize the power of knowledge production, the entanglement of academic institutions in political structures, and the responsibility to critically examine and challenge such entanglements when they contribute to harm or injustice.

GASCA unequivocally rejects antisemitism in all its forms. It likewise rejects anti-Arab and anti-Muslim discrimination and hostility. It further condemns the profiling of Jewish, Israeli, Palestinian, Muslim, Christian, Arab, or other individuals on the basis of their actual or perceived cultural, religious, ethnic, or national background. These forms of discrimination undermine scholarly inquiry, endanger lives, and erode democratic and academic institutions. At the same time, GASCA rejects any conflation of principled criticism of Israeli government policies, state institutions, or institutional practices with antisemitism. Such conflation weakens the fight against antisemitism, forecloses critical debate, and obstructs meaningful engagement with violations of international law and human rights.

Critical scrutiny of state policies and institutional entanglements is not an act of hostility but an expression of scholarly responsibility. Within academia, frank and rigorous critique is essential for collective self-reflection, accountability, and institutional integrity. In this context, critique directed at Israeli state policies and their academic entanglements should not be conflated with antisemitism but understood as a principled contribution to the protection of academic freedom, democratic life, and the consistent application of international law.

The critical assessment of institutional cooperation, including where appropriate its possible suspension, does not constitute a rejection of international scientific exchange. Rather, it is intended to ensure that such cooperation remains consistent with international law and the protection of academic freedom. It reaffirms the principles that underpin legitimate scholarly collaboration: adherence to international legal obligations, respect for fundamental rights, and the autonomy of scientific inquiry.