



Constitution of Students for Justice in Palestine at The Ohio State University (SJP OSU)

For the purpose of providing a governing document to support the mission and success of Students for Justice in Palestine at The Ohio State University,

Established: Autumn 2004

Amended: Autumn 2024

ARTICLE I – NAME AND NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

- Section 1. Students for Justice in Palestine at The Ohio State University shall be the name of this organization. On all official documents and publications that the organization sponsors, its name or the abbreviation SJP OSU must be written. The Ohio Union at Ohio State University will serve as the organization's main office.
- Section 2. In accordance with university policies, this organization and its members are prohibited from discriminating against anyone on the basis of their age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, protected veteran status, or any other basis.
 - Our dedication to the human rights of the Palestinian people is rooted in a fundamental respect for the human rights of all people. We condemn the racism and discrimination underlying the policies and laws of the state of Israel and reject all forms of hatred or discrimination against any religious, racial, or ethnic group in general. We welcome individuals of all ethnic and religious backgrounds to join in solidarity with the struggle for justice for all in Palestine.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

The Ohio State University Students for Justice in Palestine is a democratic student organization, whose main focus is the liberation and self-determinism of the Palestinian people; this includes Palestinians within Israel, the Occupied Territories, and the diaspora. SJP believes that a crucial step towards a practical political solution relies on justice not only for some but for all as equal citizens.

We condemn Israel's non-compliance with international law.

We firmly reject the apartheid system Palestinians in the territories have and continue to live under.

We affirm that all peoples are entitled to human rights and the protection of international law. We oppose all forms of racism, including but not limited to, Islamophobia, anti-Semitism, and white supremacy.

We oppose all forms of oppression towards marginalized groups globally; particularly we emphasize our solidarity with other oppressed indigenous peoples. We understand that our struggle is inherently linked to a long history of global colonialism and seek to find associations with groups working for liberation and recognition.

We firmly reject the military occupation as well as all other forms of state and institutionalized violence. This includes the blockade on Gaza and the Apartheid Wall. We condemn repression and affirm our right to self-expression; we stand in solidarity with Palestinian political prisoners within Israeli prisons, who are being unjustly held for doing the same.

We insist that the Palestinian Question be answered with Palestinian self-determinism. We seek to create a dialogue on the Palestinian perspective and encourage all to participate with us.

SJP OSU recognizes and supports the 2005 call to boycott, divest, and sanction. BDS should be maintained until Israel meets its obligation to recognize the Palestinian people's inalienable right to self-determination and fully complies with the precepts of international law by:

1. Ending its occupation and colonization of all Arab lands, dismantling the Wall, and freeing all Palestinian and Arab political prisoners.
2. Recognizing the fundamental rights of the Arab-Palestinian citizens of Israel to full equality; and,
3. Respecting, protecting, and promoting the rights of Palestinian refugees to return to their homes and properties as stipulated in UN General Assembly Resolution 194

ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP: QUALIFICATIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

- Section 1. All individuals who adhere to the organization's bylaws, agree with and actively promote the organization's mission, and pay the membership dues at any time during the year shall be considered voting members.
- Section 2. After thirty (30) days of participation in the organization, any voting member becomes entitled to vote and run for office, provided that the position is vacant.
- Section 3. Membership in this organization shall be for one (1) academic year.
- Section 4. The annual dues for voting members of the organization shall be set at \$10. The timing for the collection of these dues shall be determined at the discretion of the SJP OSU officers of that academic year.

ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS

- Section 1. The elected officers of this organization shall be Co-Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, Education Chair, Content Creator(s), and Event Coordinator(s). All candidates must be enrolled OSU students.
- Section 2. The Executive Committee for this organization shall be composed of those officers named in section 1 of Article IV of this constitution. The Executive Committee shall formulate, propose, and implement projects that supervise the activities of this organization; and approve the annual budget and means to obtain necessary funding. 3 The

Executive Committee shall be subject to the order of the membership and none of its actions shall be in conflict with the constitution. An officer of the Executive Committee shall provide prior notice to the President when they are unable to attend an Executive Committee meeting.

- Section 3. The term of office for all officers shall be one academic year. An officer of this organization may only hold their office for two consecutive terms. An officer of this organization shall not concurrently serve two or more offices within the organization.
- The election of officers will take place in March, allowing for a month of transition before the tenure of the elected officials expires. Secret ballot voting must be used to elect officers, and it must be observed by members who are ineligible members to seek office again.
- Section 5. The duties of elected office shall be as follows:
 - Co-President(s) — The President(s) shall direct and be responsible for the programs and developments of this organization; the President shall be the presiding officer at all meetings; shall propose the annual budget; and by virtue of the position shall chair this organization’s Executive Committee.
 - Secretary — The Secretary shall have and maintain a list of all officers, committee chairpersons, and members of those committees. The Secretary shall have and maintain a list of all members of this organization, shall notify members of meetings, conduct correspondence as directed by the President, and read important correspondence or a summary of it at meetings. The Secretary shall send notice when membership will expire, and turn over all collected monies to the treasurer, giving an accurate record to the Treasurer and keeping a duplicate. The Secretary shall report the status of membership payment at each meeting of the Executive Committee and shall produce and distribute a membership list on a semi-annual basis to the Executive Committee. The Secretary shall store the original document of this constitution in a suitable location.
 - Treasurer — The Treasurer shall receive and deposit all money of the organization; shall maintain records of such funds; shall pay by check whenever feasible; all drafts written by this organization shall bear the signature of either the Treasurer or President. The Treasurer shall give a statement of finances at every meeting of the Executive Committee and give a complete financial report at the annual meeting.
 - Education Chair — The Education Chair's objective will be to complete research projects that will support Ohio State's educational campaign for Palestinian liberation. Every two weeks, they will organize and hold general body meetings in collaboration with the event coordinator.
 - Content Creator(s) — The Content Creation Chair shall be responsible for creating and posting content on SJP’s social media pages. This includes but is not limited to, taking pictures and videos of events, posting event advertisements, and designing posts. They shall manage the SJP website, and the Linktree, and be responsible for SJP’s social media growth. They shall also represent SJP at events of allies on and off campus.
 - Event Coordinator(s) — All events that the organization hosts will be handled by the event coordinator. Raise the Keffiyeh and any other significant occasions, as well as any annual general meetings or campaign activities, fall under this category.

- Section 6. In the event a Co-President of this organization is unable to perform their duties, the board will hold an internal election process of who will replace the vacancy.
- Section 7. In the event an officer, other than the President of this organization, is permanently unable to perform their duties, or a vacancy exists on the Executive Committee, the President shall appoint a regular member to fulfill the duties for the remainder of the unexpired term, with the simple majority approval of the Executive Committee.
- Section 8: If a member conducts himself/herself in such a manner deemed detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization or is in violation of the OSU Student Code of Conduct, they can be removed through a majority vote of the other voting membership or unanimous vote of the officers, with the consultation of the advisor.

ARTICLE V – COMMITTEES

- Section 1. Executive officers may form committees in order to organize and distribute the workload of the organization as they see fit. Committee members must be official SJP members but do not necessarily have to be enrolled OSU students. They shall be held to the rules of the constitution and attend all board meetings they are asked to attend by the executive committee.

ARTICLE VI – MEETINGS

- Section 1. The Co-Presidents shall call a weekly meeting of this organization’s Executive Committee to be held at a time and place that is set forth by the President.
- Section 2. The Co-Presidents shall call to order at least two general body meetings of this organization’s membership each month.

ARTICLE VII – PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

- Section 1. The rules contained in Robert’s Rules of Order Revised shall govern in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with this constitution, its bylaws, and policies.

ARTICLE VIII – ELECTIONS

- Section 1. The elected officers of this organization shall be duly elected by eligible Voting Members as referred to in Article IV, Section 4 of this document.
- Section 2. All officers and candidates for office shall be members in good standing, including board activity and retention, for at least six (6) months prior to their nomination and election and remain so throughout their term of office, as well as meeting any and all requirements set forth in this organization’s constitution and policies.

ARTICLE IX – YEAR

- Section 1. For all purposes, fiscal or otherwise, the year shall begin in May and conclude in May of the following calendar year.

ARTICLE X – IMPEACHMENT

- Section 1. Any officer may be removed for malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance. A petition for removal of an officer shall be signed by at least one-third (1/3) of the voting members of this organization or one-half (1/2) of the members of this organization’s

Executive Committee. The petition shall be submitted to any member of the Executive Committee. The member of the Executive Committee receiving such a petition shall convene a special session of the Executive Committee within (15) days. That Committee member shall present the petition for consideration at that meeting.

- At the meeting of the Executive Committee, the officer receiving the petition shall present the findings and recommendations of the Executive Committee. The officer in question will have an opportunity to present their beliefs regarding the matter. An officer shall be removed from office upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the executive committee present.

ARTICLE XI – AMENDMENTS

- Section 1. Amendments to this constitution may be proposed at any regular meeting or presented in writing to the Secretary. Notice of such amendments shall be submitted, in writing, to the membership.
- Section 2. The constitution may be amended at a regular meeting of the organization's membership by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote, with the amendment(s) taking effect at the subsequent meeting.