

# **Students For Justice In Palestine At The Ohio State University**

## **Student Organization Constitution**

### **ARTICLE I. NAME OF ORGANIZATION**

Students For Justice In Palestine At The Ohio State University

### **ARTICLE II. ORGANIZATION 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 III. UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS**

#### **Section A. Harassment and Discrimination, including Sexual Misconduct**

Students For Justice In Palestine At The Ohio State University *agrees that it will not engage in sexual misconduct nor any harassment or discrimination on the basis of 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 in accordance with the Student Organization Registration Guidelines.*

### **Section B. Hazing**

Students For Justice In Palestine At The Ohio State University *agrees to maintain a zero-tolerance policy for hazing, in compliance with Ohio State University and Collin's Law. All members must conduct themselves in a manner that supports an environment free from hazing. Hazing includes any activity, regardless of consent, that causes or creates a substantial risk of physical, mental, or emotional harm or humiliation to any individual as part of membership or affiliation with the student organization. If found responsible for hazing, members and/or the organization may face disciplinary actions.*

### **Section C. Bylaws**

Students for Justice in Palestine at The Ohio State University *retains the right to maintain separate bylaws to outline the day-to-day operations of the organization and to clarify policies and procedures otherwise not included in the previous articles. Bylaws and/or other guiding documents may not take precedence over the requirements set forth by local, state, and federal laws, The Ohio State University's regulations, policies, and procedures, and the Council on Student Affairs (CSA) Student Organization Registration Guidelines. Organizations may make amendments and changes to the bylaws without consulting the Ohio Union & Student Activities department, and changes to bylaws do not require approval. All elements of organizational bylaws shall be consistent with the organization's currently approved constitution on file and CSA constitution requirements.*

## **ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP**

### **Section A. Membership Eligibility**

- All individuals who adhere to the organization's bylaws and support and advance its mission and goals shall be eligible to be members of the organization.

### **Section B. Member Selection**

- After thirty (30) days of active participation in the organization, including attending general body meetings, joining the organization's communications, and paying the required membership dues at any time during the academic year, an individual can become a member of the organization by expressing interest to one of the executive officers.

### **Section C. Membership Timeline**

Membership in this organization shall be for one (1) academic year.

### **Section D. Member Removal**

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. ADVISOR**

### **Section A. Advisor Duties and Responsibilities**

The advisor will function as a consultation body to the student organization.

### **Section B. Advisor Term**

The advisor will hold a length determined by the organization's officers.

### **Section C. Advisor Selection**

After an interview process led by the primary and secondary leaders, the advisor will be chosen through a simple majority vote by the organization's officers.

### **Section D. Advisor Replacement**

If an advisor replacement is required, the organization's officers, working jointly with the advisor unless there are extenuating circumstances, are responsible for finding a replacement advisor.

## **ARTICLE VI. ORGANIZATION LEADERSHIP**

### **Section A. Officer Positions**

- Co-President(s) — The President(s) shall direct and be responsible for the programs and develop
- ents 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 B. Officer Eligibility**

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.

## **Section C. Officer Selection Process**

- The elected officers of this organization shall be duly elected by eligible Voting Members. 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 D. Officer Removal**

- Behavior deemed to hinder the advancement of the organization's mission and purpose, including negligence, wrongdoings, or gross misconduct, may result in an officer's impeachment with the consultation of the advisor. Written causes for removal must be submitted to the organization's primary and secondary leaders. A hearing shall be conducted by the Executive Committee within 15 days of charges being made where the alleged grounds for removal and evidence and defense of the officer(s) are presented. The impeached officer shall be removed from their position following a 2/3 majority vote of the Executive Committee.

## **ARTICLE VII. ORGANIZATION DISSOLUTION**

### **Section A. Dissolution Requirements**

The organization may become inactive if there are no organization officers.

### **Section B. Dissolution Procedures, including Assets and Debts**

If the organization assets and/or debts exist, the responsible officers present during the term of its accumulation must be responsible to addressing or disposing of these assets and/or debts.

## **ARTICLE VIII. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS**

## **Section A. Amendment Process**

- 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.
- 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.