

PACE UNIVERSITY

A RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING, DEFINING, AND CONDEMNING ANTISEMITISM

INTRODUCED BY:

Eden Litvin President of Students Supporting Israel

CO-SIGNED BY:

STUDENTS SUPPORTING ISRAEL

HILLEL AT PACE UNIVERSITY

WHEREAS, the Student Government was created as a forum for students to voice their opinions on issues presented by the Administration, Faculty, and Student Body.¹

WHEREAS, Pace University aims to create and sustain a living-learning community that embraces diversity in all its forms, challenges habits and assumptions underlying the structures of power, privilege, and injustice, and works to ensure that we are inclusive, welcoming, and empowering to all our members.²

WHEREAS, Jewish students constitute an important part of the broader Pace University community, yet remain distinguishable from the majority by common ethnic, religious, and cultural characteristics.

NOTING THAT the Pace University Jewish community is thus a distinct and significant cultural community within the university, which Pace University is charter-bound to support, protect, and defend.³

¹ <https://www.pace.edu/equity/policies>

² <https://www.pace.edu/equity>

³ <https://www.pace.edu/equity>

NOTING THAT the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) defines antisemitism as “a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities.”⁴

FURTHER NOTING THAT the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism was recognized by the United States under Title VI⁵, as well as by Germany, Italy, the United Kingdom, Canada, Israel, the French National Assembly, Austria, Scotland, Romania, Bulgaria, Lithuania, Moldova, Greece, Cyprus, North Macedonia, Serbia, Argentina, the European Parliament, Albania and countless other governmental institutions and universities across the world.

RECOGNIZING THAT in recent years, there has been a record spike in antisemitic attacks across the nation⁶, such as:

- Kansas City Jewish: Community Center (JCC) Shooting (2014)
- Charlottesville, NC: Demonstration of White Supremacists, where they were chanting “Jews Will Not Replace Us” (2017)
- Pittsburgh: Tree of Life Synagogue Shooting (2018)
- Poway (LA): Chabad Synagogue Shooting (2018)
- Jersey City: Shooting at a Kosher Supermarket (2019)
- Monsey (NY): A knife-wielding man stormed into a rabbi’s home and stabbed five people as they celebrated Hanukkah in an Orthodox Jewish community north of New York City.(2019)
- During the months of December - October 2019-2020, there were 38 attacks against Jews in Brooklyn, NY.⁷

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<https://www.holocaustremembrance.com/resources/working-definitions-charters/working-definition-antisemitism>

⁵ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/executive-order-combating-anti-semitism/>

⁶ <https://www.adl.org/what-we-do/anti-semitism/antisemitism-in-the-us>

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https://www.adl.org/education-and-resources/resource-knowledge-base/adl-tracker-of-antisemitic-incidents?field_incident_location_state_target_id=4787&keys=Brooklyn%20&page=4

- New York City: A Star of David was drawn on a Pace University Building in feces. (2019)

RECOGNIZING THAT in the month of August 2020, there was an extreme spike in attacks against Jewish collegiate institutions, such as:

- University of Southern California (USC) Student Government VP resigned after antisemitic bullying
- University of Delaware Chabad set on fire
- Brandeis University bomb threat
- University of Oregon Chabad set on fire *twice*,

NOTING THAT according to the FBI Jews and Jewish institutions were a target of nearly 60% of religious-based hate crimes in the United States⁸, despite Jews constituting less than 1.7% of the nation's population⁹.

⁸<https://www.adl.org/news/press-releases/adl-urges-action-after-fbi-reports-jews-were-target-of-most-religious-based-hate>

⁹ 2012 U.S. Census Bureau estimate

WHEREAS the Office of Diversity and Inclusion at Pace University sets goals to “Expand the presence within the student body, faculty and staff of individuals from underrepresented social identity groups through intentional, innovative, and bold recruitment efforts, and, Foster the development of a campus culture and climate in which every member can thrive and flourish.”¹⁰

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Student Government calls upon Pace University to adopt the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism listed above as Pace University’s official definition of antisemitism.

BE IT EVEN FURTHER RESOLVED that in order to implement the above clauses, Pace University President Marvin Krislov shall send a copy of this resolution to Chief Diversity Officer Tiffany Hamilton, *Interim Senior Associate Dean for Students* Todd Smith-Bergollo Vice President Mary Baglivo and *Interim University Dean for Students*, Rachel S. Carpenter.

¹⁰ <https://www.pace.edu/provost/commitment-to-diversity>