#### **1AC**

#### **First is framework.**

#### **[1] You must center Palestinian liberation. When confronted with genocide, the only ethical response is to tell the truth and fight for the oppressed. Anything else is false nuance that actively perpetuates scholasticide.**

**Hajir and Qato 25** — Basma Hajir, Lecturer in the School of Education at the University of Bristol (UK), holds a Ph.D. in Education and International Development from the University of Cambridge (UK), and Mezna Qato, Director of Studies in History and Director of the Margaret Anstee Centre for Global Studies at Newnham College, University of Cambridge (UK), holds a D.Phil. in History from St. Antony's College, Oxford (UK), 2025 (“Academia in a time of genocide: scholasticidal tendencies and continuities,” *Globalisation, Societies and Education*, January 2nd, Available Online at https://doi.org/10.1080/14767724.2024.2445855, Accessed 01-21-2025, p. 7-8)

Concluding thoughts

**We conclude with an invitation to take up** Edward **Said’s call to ‘avoid bleak, limited visions and instead stay ‘in touch with hope, with liberation, with critical engagement, with association or affiliation between people’** (Said and Barsamian 2019, 186)**. Palestinians are not the only targets of a brutal international order**, **and their liberation and freedom will not come at the expense of another – that zero-sum calculation being so crucial to the scholasticidal tendencies we described. Rather**, **Palestinian liberation is urgent because it is one way we can all do something to dam the uncontrolled flow of capital power into our universities**, **and instead rebuild an intellectual world that promises actual universal freedoms and an end to domination.**

Angela **Davis once said ‘movements are most powerful when they begin to affect the vision and perspectives of those who do not necessarily associate themselves with those movements’** (Davis 2016, 47)**. Over one hundred years**, **and particularly since the Nakba**, **the Question of Palestine has challenged students and scholars alike to think differently about justice, to dispense inherited toolkits that can’t seem to account for this question and try and forge new ones. And so with this generation. A ‘global Palestine’ is gaining traction within movements everywhere** (Hardt and Mezzadra 2024)**. Young people in particular are rejecting neutrality or claims of insufficient knowledge and nuance**, **in the face of genocidal violence. This new form of solidarity rests on ‘mutuality, accountability, and the recognition of common interests’** (Mohanty 2003, 7)**.**

**We can join these young people by rejecting scholasticidal tendencies. We can offer a hand**, **or simply a word of public praise to beleaguered and hounded colleagues and students. We can teach Palestine. We can leverage our platforms to call for divestment of our universities from the arms industries. We can question the ethical frame justifying research collaborations with Israeli universities and companies directly bound to the genocide. We can mobilise whatever resources are at our disposal to build institutional ties with Palestinian scholars and universities. We can talk to our students. We can listen to our students. With the value and values of the university under such peril, we can refuse to cower. There may be a price to pay**, **but surely those who study and utilise a decolonial framework have already factored that into their calculation. And if not, why not?**

**We can reclaim concepts like complexity, nuance, and reflexivity. Advocating for justice does not entail abandoning complexity;** rather, **it requires binding it to a firm ethical commitment and practice. Being ‘nuanced’ and ‘morally clear’ are not mutually exclusive. ‘Reflexivity’ was originally introduced and advocated to enhance ethical responsibility, not dilute, evade, or confuse it. It is** [end page 7] **our ethical responsibility to oppose the scholasticidal tendency to abandon the search for ‘truth’**, **and by doing so**, **give the powerful the capacity to dominate through the power of their ‘truth’.**

Edward **Said reminded us that the major task of the intellectual is to ‘reveal the disparity between the so-called two sides**, **which appear rhetorically and ideologically to be in perfect balance but are not in fact. To reveal that there is an oppressed and an oppressor, a victim and a victimiser, and unless we recognise that, we are nowhere’** (Said and Viswanathan 2004, 340)**. No intellectual project or its proponents**, **including decolonial theory and theorists should be given a pass to abandon calls for justice and freedom through silence and deflection. Let alone do so in the name of ‘dismantling oppression’. Such cooptations represent a ‘luxury connected to the fantasy of intellectual power’** (Giroux, 2011, 171)**. They must be rejected as extensions of scholasticide. We must engage in the urgent project to consider the world as it is and how we want it to be, certainly. But it is only when we stand up and organise do we change the world.**

#### **In this moment, it’s vital for engaged intellectuals to center Palestine. That's pre-fiat.**

**Giroux 24** — Henry A. Giroux, Chair for Scholarship in the Public Interest in the English and Cultural Studies Department and Paulo Freire Distinguished Scholar in Critical Pedagogy at McMaster University (Canada), holds a D.A. in History from Carnegie Mellon University, 2024 (“Genocide in Gaza and the Politics of False Equivalencies,” *Policy & Practice: A Development Education Review*, Issue 38, Spring, Available Online at https://www.developmenteducationreview.com/issue/issue-38/genocide-gaza-and-politics-false-equivalencies, Accessed 10-11-2024)

**Higher education may be one of the few sites left where prominent issues such as the genocidal war on Gaza can be analysed, engaged, and subject to the rigours of history, a comprehensive analysis, and relevant evidence. It should be a place where students are given the knowledge to make informed judgments, deal with unsettling knowledge, and engage in pedagogical practices in which the search for truth is matched by a sense of ethical and social responsibility.** Put simply, it should be a place where the habits of citizenship and critical agency should be allowed to bloom. **Education in a time of crisis should reject attempts at censorship**, especially **aimed at those fighting for Palestinian rights**, **and refuse to run away from topics that are controversial**, **especially in a moment of disaster, war, and mass suffering. Instead of refusing to address such topics in the classroom**, **educators and other cultural workers must take on the role of engaged intellectuals who make visible the history, crimes, and neo-colonial war machine of elimination that is now engulfing the Middle East and other parts of the globe.**

**If we remain silent in the face of this war and refuse to act individually and collectively to bring it to an end**, **more children will die**, **and the bombs and violence that define the politics of right-wing racists, antisemites, and Islamophobes will prevail. Before long**, **the scourge and darkness of authoritarian politics will drown out whatever hope lies in the promise of a strong democracy and the calls for peace. The morally reprehensible killing of children in Gaza is part of a larger problem that haunts the modern period: the merging of colonialism and neoliberal capitalism. Regardless of the diverse forms it takes in various parts of the world**, **it is a dehumanising politics of greed, disposability and extermination. Its allegiance is not to human dignity but to the rewards of militarism, war, state violence, dispossession, and the repression of dissent and broader struggles for economic and social justice. Pressing the claims for truth, justice, freedom, and equality is no longer simply a political objective; it is an ethical imperative at a time in which democracy across the globe is struggling to survive.**

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#### **[2] We link to their framework and o/w. Palestine is a leading root of settler colonialism – solving it first is uniquely key because it prevents more colonialism.**

### [**Mustafa** al hersh 20**23**: author for the african times, The occupation of Palestine is at the heart of the imperial project] [**https://peoplesdispatch.org/2023/11/06/the-occupation-of-palestine-is-at-the-heart-of-the-imperial-project/**](https://peoplesdispatch.org/2023/11/06/the-occupation-of-palestine-is-at-the-heart-of-the-imperial-project/) **//riki**

### **Palestine is at the heart of the imperial project** The interest of the colonial and imperial regimes in Palestine began during the period of free trade capitalism and commercial competition between colonial industrial capitalist countries, even before the middle of the 19th century. The primary motivation for this was the importance of **Palestine’s strategic geographical location for international colonial trade, which was considered the most important economic branch in the field of colonial competition in the stage of free competition and the colonial struggle to secure foreign markets. Palestine is located in the middle of the “Arab East” and is considered the shortest land route between the colonial capitalist countries in Europe,** especially Britain, and its colonies in the Far East — India and others. At this stage, Palestine was part of the Ottoman Empire, which was suffering from weakness, economic underdevelopment, and backwardness compared to the industrially advanced capitalist countries. Therefore, during the stage of free competition, the imperialist countries tried to infiltrate the Ottoman Empire, especially to its sections in the Near East, and pave the way for dividing their legacy in this important region. These attempts took several forms, including the attempt of the imperialist regimes to get closer to the Ottoman Sultanate with the aim of obtaining privileges, such as securing trade routes and allowing capitalist commercial convoys to cross and pass through the Palestinian and Syrian lands (at that stage, the lands of Palestine, Lebanon, Transjordan, and Syria constituted Historical Syria). The facts indicate that “between the years 1839 – 1854,” and with the increase of interest in Palestine, the major European powers established consulates in the city of Jerusalem. The imperialist countries also tried to adopt the various sects in Palestine and pretend to defend their interests as a mask behind which they concealed their true intentions to monopolize the center of influence in Palestine and create a material base on which it is based. Perhaps the most prominent thing that reveals the imperialist intentions behind the cover-up slogan of defending the interests of the sects is the position of British imperialism towards the Jewish community and its attempts to make it its main pillar for extending its colonial influence. At the beginning of the forties (of the nineteenth century), many British imperialist politicians called for Jewish settlement in Palestine as a guarantee to defend British imperialist commercial interests and secure freedom of roads to India. In his book “The History of Zionism” the Zionist Nahum Sokolov highlights many examples and citations that confirm the reality and dimensions of ambitions. **British colonialism was behind the idea of ​​settling Jews in Palestine** even before the emergence of the World Zionist Organization on the political scene. Sokolov mentions, for example, that British Foreign Secretary Viscount Palmerston wrote on September 25, 1840, confirming the “Syrian question,” after Britain intervened militarily alongside Turkey to repel the forces of Ibrahim Pasha. He wrote that he proposed establishing a British colony there, and added that the region needed money and work… And the Hebrews are waiting to return to Syria. Therefore — he said — if the countries guarantee the laws to achieve equality in Syria and the doubts of the Hebrews are dispelled, then the call will mobilize them and they will go out with their wealth and industry…He stressed in the end that the colonization of Syria by the Hebrews is the cheapest and surest way to supply these areas, sparsely populated and needs it. In fact, the goal of British colonialism was never to provide the natural needs of the population of Syria and to seek help from Jewish settlement to achieve this goal. Rather, its primary goal was to remove any competing power by continuing to guarantee British imperial trade privileges and its trade routes with its colonies. From this standpoint, and to preserve its interests, it stood along with the Ottoman Empire against the young state in Egypt led by Muhammad Ali and against his forces led by his son Ibrahim. In the period from 1831 to 1840, Muhammad Ali and his son Ibrahim tried to establish a large Arab state. This state extended from Egypt through Historical Syria to the borders of Minor Asia. Palmerston indicates in a letter he sent to his country’s ambassador in Naples on March 21, 1833, that the goal of Muhammad Ali is the establishment of an Arab kingdom that includes all the countries that speak Arabic. He noted that this project in itself may not cause any harm, “but it will lead to the dismemberment of Turkey, and this is what we are not satisfied with. Moreover, we see no reason to justify replacing Turkey with an Arab king in controlling the India Road.” Palestine gained special importance on the map of conflict between the imperial regimes after the opening of the Suez Canal in 1869, but the imperial conflict to carve up the territories of the Ottoman Empire, including Palestine, between Britain, France, Tsarist Russia, and the German Empire, which raged at the beginning of the twentieth century, especially on the eve of and during World War I, led to the Sykes-Picot Treaty in 1916, which divided the countries of the Near East between France, England, and Tsarist Russia.

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### **The Advantage is Palestine.**

#### **Netanyahu stops peace.**

**Nashed 1-17** [Mat; January 17; Al Jareeza; “Gaza ceasefire won’t last without political process, analysts warn”; https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2025/1/17/gaza-ceasefire-wont-last-without-political-process-warn-analysts; Vikrant] recut cpsof

**Experts** who spoke to Al Jazeera fear that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who has **resisted** a **ceasefire** for **months** and insisted that Hamas must be destroyed, will **resume hostilities** after the captives are recovered to ostensibly “**punish**” the Palestinian group, buttress **Israel’s security** and ensure his own **political survival** while somehow blaming **Hamas** for the **failure** of the **deal**.“**Israel** is **very good** at **breaking ceasefires** and making it appear that it wasn’t its fault,” said Mairav Zonszein, an expert on Israel-Palestine with the International Crisis Group.

#### **Aff solves**

#### **1] Opens the path for ICC oversight, which solves.**

**Roth 24** (Kenneth Roth, visiting professor at Princeton University’s School of Public and International Affairs and was executive director of Human Rights Watch from 1993 to 2022; May 7, 2024; Foreign Policy; "Biden should not stand in the way of the ICC"; https://foreignpolicy.com/2024/05/07/biden-israel-hamas-icc-gaza-netanyahu-arrest/) BC + Shiwen recut cpsof

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu fears that the International Criminal Court (ICC) will soon charge him for alleged war crimes in Gaza and has appealed to the Biden administration for help. Washington is reportedly trying to dissuade ICC chief Prosecutor Karim Khan from filing charges, but its arguments, both legal and practical, are weak. Khan has not said what he is planning, but the most likely charges will be for obstructing access to food and other humanitarian aid. Khan has already warned the Netanyahu government that this reported obstruction could lead to ICC action, and given Israel’s refusal to allow the court’s investigators into Gaza, the proof of obstruction—in the form of widely acknowledged famine conditions—is more readily available than evidence concerning Israel’s indiscriminate and disproportionate bombing of Palestinian civilians. Senior officials in Hamas’s military chain of command are also likely to face charges for the atrocities that the group committed on Oct. 7, 2023. The Israeli government claims that it has not restricted the flow of aid, but this **denial** of Netanyahu’s starvation strategy **is** **not credible**, given the extensive reporting on the needless obstacles that Israeli officials have erected to humanitarian aid entering Gaza. Instead, the Netanyahu government has responded to the possibility of ICC charges with threats, saying it would retaliate against the Palestinian Authority, potentially leading to its collapse. That threat has a shoot-yourself-in-the-foot quality, given the PA’s service to Israel in helping to keep the lid on an endlessly occupied population in the West Bank. But it also shows Israel’s unwillingness to seriously grapple with the charges. If there were a conscientious domestic prosecutorial effort to hold those obstructing aid accountable, the ICC would be required to defer to it under its principle of complementarity. The **Biden** administration’s response **has been no better**. Rather than recognize that the ICC represents an independent effort to uphold the international rule of law in the much-touted “rulesbased order,” a spokesperson for the administration claimed that the court did not have jurisdiction. That is an allusion to the **long-standing U.S. opposition** to the ICC exercising jurisdiction over the nationals of governments that have not joined the court, even if their alleged crimes were committed on the territory of a government that is a court member. But Washington’s objections to such territorial jurisdiction were overruled by the governments that created the court in Rome more than two decades ago. And the U.S. government effectively abandoned that argument as well after the ICC used territorial jurisdiction in March 2023 to charge Russian President Vladimir Putin for war crimes in Ukraine. U.S. President Joe Biden said those charges were “justified,” and the U.S. Senate unanimously agreed. That makes sense, because it is an essential attribute of sovereignty to address crimes on a nation’s territory regardless of the nationality of the perpetrator. Palestine, as a recognized U.N. observer state, has conferred jurisdiction to the ICC, and the court’s judges have approved Khan’s investigation. Given the weakness of the jurisdictional argument, the administration is reportedly falling back on supposedly pragmatic appeals. “We are quietly encouraging the ICC not to do it. It will blow up everything,” a U.S. official told Axios. This is the latest variation of the old argument that justice impedes peace—which implies that a leader facing criminal charges is more likely to keep fighting than to accept the need for a settlement. But **history shows that charges for war crimes** often **facilitate peace efforts by marginalizing an abusive leader.** For example, in his book To End a War, the former U.S. diplomat Richard Holbrooke made clear that the Dayton Peace Agreement resolving the Bosnian conflict of the 1990s was possible only because the International Criminal Tribunal for the former nation of Yugoslavia had already charged the Bosnian Serb military and political leaders, Ratko Mladic and Radovan Karadzic, precluding their travel to Dayton without risking arrest. Holbrooke made his remarkable deal with the Serbian president, Slobodan Milosevic, who had not yet been charged. Charges against former Liberian President Charles Taylor, issued by the Special Court for Sierra Leone, led to his rapid loss of power and paved the way for the brutal Liberian conflict to end and a strong democracy to emerge. ICC charges against the leaders of the Uganda-based Lord’s Resistance Army, which was notorious for kidnapping children and making them become soldiers, forced the leaders into hiding, the organization to splinter, and its military presence to weaken substantially. **ICC charges against Netanyahu could have a similar salutary effect**. Today, Netanyahu is a major obstacle to a lasting cease-fire in Gaza. He has been taking extreme positions because he is beholden to two far-right ministers, Bezalel Smotrich and Itamar Ben-Gvir, if he hopes to stay in power and avoid possible prison time on corruption charges that predate the current conflict. As a result, Netanyahu has undermined a key incentive for Hamas to agree to a cease-fire deal by saying that he would invade Rafah, the southern Gaza city where 1.4 million Palestinian civilians are sheltering, **“with or without a deal.”** Taking that threat a step further, his government has ordered Palestinians to evacuate eastern Rafah, and Israeli troops have taken control of the city’s border crossing with Egypt. Similarly, Netanyahu has ruled out the establishment of a Palestinian state, let alone equal rights within the existing “one-state reality” between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea, leaving Palestinians with the unpalatable options of ongoing apartheid or mass expulsion. There is no way to know how the Israeli public will respond to potential ICC charges against Netanyahu, but they are likely to underscore that his prioritization of his own power and future has become a profound liability for Israel. That would make it **more likely** for Israelis **to usher in a government** that is more **open to** the kinds of **difficult** **compromises** needed **to** free the hostages, **end** the **bloodshed in Gaza**, and remove the perennial threat of armed conflict that has so destabilized the region.

#### **2] Non US supports means lack of funding, only the aff can solve**

**Sadat ’20** [Leila Nadya Sadat, (A renowned scholar, she is one of the world’s foremost authorities in the fields of public international law, international criminal, human rights, and foreign affairs. She has more than 170 publications to her name and regularly lectures and teaches abroad. She received Washington University’s Arthur Holly Compton Distinguished Faculty Award in recognition of her leadership of the Crimes Against Initiative, a ground-breaking project she launched that wrote the world’s first treaty on crimes against humanity and continues to work for its adoption by the United Nations. She is the current Chair of the International Law Association (American Branch), and a member of the American Law Institute and the U.S. Council on Foreign Relations.), 01-01-2020, REFORMING THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT: “LEAN IN” OR “LEAVE”, Washington University Journal of Law & Policy pgs. 51-76, <https://journals.library.wustl.edu/lawpolicy/article/id/1021/>]//LHSETD recut cpsof

3. Striving for Universality of Ratification, and Increased State Support The world of 2020 is not the world of 1998. The 1990s were a time of conflict, but also of hope following the end of the Cold War, seeing a new emphasis on human rights and international law.94 Twenty years later, the cold war seems resurgent as the Security Council is paralyzed by bitter disagreements between the great powers, particularly the Russian Federation, China, and the United States. This has made action on some of the worst atrocity situations in the world (Syria, for example) impossible, leading to establishment of other mechanisms by the General Assembly like the International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism for Syria.95 Ratifications of the Rome Statute have slowed considerably, **leaving seventy States and many major powers outside the Rome Statute system**, a situation that is unlikely to dramatically improve soon. As noted above, two States that have been the subject of preliminary examinations have withdrawn from the Statute in response,96 which is their sovereign right, but worrying. Talk of a “mass exodus” of African Union members has punctuated discussions about the Court at its annual Assembly of States Parties meetings for the past few years,97 sparked by indictments of African leaders who fought their battles both in and outside the courtroom,98 attacking the Court politically as well as the specific cases against them, and even, as discussed below, attempting to amend or reinterpret key Rome Statute provisions in their favor to preserve their immunity from the Court’s jurisdiction.99 **The hostility of the United States has also posed a major challenge for the Court**, as noted above.100 Although instrumental in the establishment of the ICTY and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) in the 1990s, and relatively supportive in terms of funding, intelligence sharing, and the secondment of personnel, the U.S. government has historically been on the fence about the establishment of a permanent international criminal court.101 **While a lack of U.S. support may not be fatal to the Court, it has weakened it. It has jeopardized the ability of countries to cooperate with the Court (due in part to the Article 98 Agreement campaign, which targeted both State and non-States Parties). It also deprived the Court of financial and logistical support. Some argue that the Court is not evenhanded because it cannot compel U.S. persons to appear before it even though the United States has participated in Security Council referrals to the Court in three cases involving non-States Parties (while exempting or attempting to exempt its own nationals from the Court’s jurisdiction): Sudan,102 Libya103 and Syria.104 This gives rise to the appearance—and perhaps the reality—of double standards, which erodes the Court’s perceived legitimacy. The Prosecutor’s request to open an investigation into the situation in Afghanistan, which implicated U.S. persons and policies, obviated some of the critique directed towards the ICC itself, but led to other difficulties as the Court found itself on the receiving end (again) of blistering attacks from the U.S. government.105 There is also speculation that the Pretrial Chamber’s decision finding that the investigation could not be opened “in the interests of justice” was a direct result of U.S. pressure, undermining the Court’s legitimacy and independence. The U.S. attacks on the Court harm not only the ICC, but the United Nations more generally, given the Rome Statute’s importance within the United Nations system. It also divides the United States from some of its closest allies, nearly all of whom are States Parties, including Britain, Canada, France, Japan, and South Korea.**

#### **Independently, sanctions limit the court**

**Gusiev 24** [Glib Gusiev, edited Esquire magazine, now editor-in-chief for Babel; Oksana Kovalenko; graduated from Kyiv National University in International Relations, bachelors in law; “The US is threatening to destroy the International Criminal Court, the only court that can prosecute presidents for the most serious crimes. Why? And what does this mean for Ukraine?” accessed January 9 2025 and published December 30 2024]// Arjiebear recut cpsof

**The creation of the International Criminal Court within the UN was a US initiative**. Its draft statute was ready by 1994. At that time, the most high-profile international events were the atrocities committed by the military in Yugoslavia and Rwanda. The UN Security Council created tribunals to investigate these crimes. Security Council members, primarily the US, influenced the most important aspects of these tribunals: the appointment of prosecutors, the selection of judges, and the budget. **The US wanted such influence in the International Criminal Court. They insisted that the permanent members of the Security Council determine which cases to investigate**, which would effectively mean a veto on any case — **that is, the ICC could be controlled. The international legal community was not satisfied with this.** British lawyer Philip Sands, who worked on the creation of the court, writes in his book *Lawless World* that the ICC ultimately came about because of a US mistake. This happened in 1998 at a special legal conference in Rome, where 148 countries were supposed to adopt the statute of the future court. In the last hour of the last day of the conference, the head of the American delegation called for a vote on the text of the statute. He hoped that most states would not vote, understanding that there was no unanimity — and there was none. The vote took place: only seven participating countries voted against the statute. The US voted against, along with China and Israel. Despite this, the ICC was created. President Bill Clinton signed the statute of the court, but the US never ratified it. There is an informal but firm opinion in diplomatic circles that a treaty that is not adopted by full consensus has no long-term prospects. The ceremony that launched the signing of the Rome Statute, July 18, 1998. After that, countries began to join the International Criminal Court. As early as January 2001, when George W. Bush came to power, his administration began a campaign against the ICC. After the September 11 attacks, the United States launched a “war on terror,” and then-Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said his concerns about the ICC were growing because the court might try to establish jurisdiction over American servicemen. In May 2002, the George W. Bush administration announced that it would “rescind” its signature on the Rome Statute. And within three months, Congress had passed the U.S. Servicemen Protection Act, which lawyers call the “Hague Invasion Act.” This law allows the US president to “use all necessary and appropriate means” to release any US citizen “held or imprisoned by the ICC.” It prohibits the US from cooperating with the ICC, including sharing any intelligence. Finally, it prohibits the participation of US troops in UN peacekeeping operations unless the ICC grants them full immunity from prosecution. Lawyer Philip Sands calls these actions a policy of double standards: criminal courts are good enough for citizens of all countries, but not for Americans. But **the worst relations between the US and the ICC were during the time of Donald Trump.** The then ICC prosecutor, Fatou Bensouda, asked for permission to investigate crimes committed in Afghanistan, including by American soldiers. **Trump criticized the ICC from the rostrum of the UN General Assembly, and his administration canceled Bensouda’s visa** — although the investigation did not begin. Sanctions against Bensouda personally did not stop the court, the investigation nevertheless began in 2020, and already in June 2020 Trump imposed sanctions against the ICC in general. He did not have time to seriously harm the court, because his successor, Joe Biden, lifted these sanctions in the spring of 2021. Donald Trump criticized the ICC in a speech to the UN General Assembly in September 2018. **The new US Presidential Administration has many ways to disrupt the work of the ISS** In June 2024, when the ICC was only considering issuing arrest warrants for the Israeli prime minister and defense minister, Republican Congressman Charles Roy introduced the “Anti-Illegitimate Trial” bill — referring to the ICC. It would require the president to impose sanctions on any foreigner who helps the ICC investigate Israeli crimes: seize their property or money, revoke their visas. **The US sanctions against the court and its prosecutor will have devastating consequences. They will make it almost impossible for US citizens to participate in the work of the Court, which will significantly limit the number of experts and scholars who cooperate with the ICC. The sanctions could also affect the court’s finances, which are maintained in US dollars. The court will not be able to use American software, including databases.** In addition, the court will have to close its New York office, which provides its connection to the UN. Richard Goldstone, former Chief Prosecutor of the International Tribunals for Yugoslavia and Rwanda The House of Representatives voted for the bill in June of this year. It was sent to the Senate in September. Babelʼs interlocutors are concerned that Republicans will pass it, since they now have a majority in the Senate. In addition, the US Congress annually allocates funds for international programs, including the ICC, through the State Department budget. Also, in 2024, Congress authorized the US president to transfer intelligence information about Russian crimes to the International Criminal Court, if requested. In 2024, the United States allocated $6 million to the ICCʼs economic support fund, at least $5 million to the victimsʼ support fund, and a separate $3 million contribution to the Special Criminal Court in the Central African Republic. In the 2025 budget proposal, Republicans have already banned such cooperation and have also stipulated that any payments to the ICC are now prohibited. The bill has already been passed by the House of Representatives and forwarded to the Senate. Finally, the US president can impose sanctions by executive order.

#### **3] Strong countries joining heightens effectiveness**

**Wong ’19** [Frankie Wong, (Experience directing multi-site scientific and implementation science research programs involving academic, governmental and non-governmental collaborators in China, Russia, South Africa, Tajikistan, Panama, Viet Nam, and the U.S.), 9-26-2019, "Criticisms and Shortcomings of the ICC", Access accountability, https://accessaccountability.org/index.php/2019/09/26/criticisms-and-shortcomings-of-the-icc/]//recut LHSETD recut cpsof

Apart from the post-trial enforcement issue, the ICC also suffers from pre-trial enforcement problem as it **depends completely on member states** to arrest and transfer defendants. It is uncertain if States are willing to use their military or economic force to extricate an oppressive leader from their country. The ICC itself lacks the institutional resources to ensure that the defendants actually show up in Court as it has no police force of its own and has no reliably effective means to oblige States to cooperate. An illuminating example of this is the ICC’s request to arrest and surrender Sudan’s President Omar Al-Bashir for the commitment of the crimes under Article 5. The arrest warrant, first issued in 2009, was ignored by 19 different countries, 9 of with are signatories of the Rome Statute. Due to weak enforcement power, the Prosecutor’s performance of gathering information would also be hindered. As noted by one commentator, “pursuing an ideal apolitical form of justice by ignoring the need for State support would only sap the [ICC’s] credibility”. This thus forces the Prosecutor to assess the likely State support before launching an investigation. It is precisely upon this consideration that the Pre-Trial Chamber ruled the investigation into Afghanistan would not be in the “interests of justice” by reason of the scarce cooperation obtained by the Prosecution. **Low Conviction Rates:** Connected with the above criticism is the questioning that it took the ICC 16 years to convict less than ten suspects. However, academics have analysed that because of the complexity of the crimes, “the sheer size of international trials with multiple crime sites, a high number of distinct charges”, the sheer amount of witnesses and volume of documentation per case all lead to a high degree of legal and factual compliance. Moreover, the ICC is not entirely to blame. Effective administration of justice in the context of the ICC **requires the cooperation of the States concerned**, which, as demonstrated above, is often lacking. Some measures have been introduced to improve the situation. Under Rule 100, the ICC is now able to decide on the place of proceedings. Under Rule 68, previously recorded audio or video testimony of a witness is allowed to accelerate the trial. **Exclusive Focus on African Countries:** Many African countries have repeatedly criticised the ICC as being inappropriately political by only focusing on situations in Africa. At one extreme, some consider this seemingly unjustified practice as an attempt by the Western States “to keep African countries counties compliant to the dictates of the West and its allies” or “the sacrificial lambs in the ICC’s struggle for global legitimation”. So far, every convicted person has been African. Despite the assertion, most of the African situations were referred to the ICC by African governments themselves. Secondly, it is the individuals but not the States that were suspected of exceptionally grave crimes and consequently subject to ICC criminal jurisdiction. Perhaps a better question to ask, is why the ICC is doing so little elsewhere. Thirdly, there is no evidence showing any of the ICC prosecutions in Africa were unjustified. In January 2016, the Prosecutor of the ICC was authorised by the ICC Pre-Trial Chamber to start an investigation into the situation of Georgia, which is the first non-African situation under the Court’s jurisdiction. There is also an appeal against the Pre-Trial Chamber’s decision not to authorise an investigation into alleged war crimes committed by, inter alia, US Forces, CIA and members of international armed forces. The above analysis has led some authors to conclude that the opposition to the ICC reflects the interest of some leaders to protect themselves from the Court’s scrutiny. **Lack of Resources:** While the ICC is directed to try the most serious crimes, it is given “a budget that enables only a handful of prosecutions per year”. Because of the small number of sitting judges, the ICC can hear only a limited number of cases at any given time. Without States’ support and cooperation, the ICC would have no funding, no defendants to prosecute, and no evidence with which to conduct prosecutions, all of which would go against the very purpose of setting up the ICC. Despite the number of signatories to the Rome Statute, there are **more than 70 States that have yet to join**, including the **world’s four most populous countries.** This leaves the majority of the globe outside the legal jurisdiction of the Rome Statute. It should be recognised that the global legitimacy and the normative effect of the Rome Statute **correlate positively with the number of ICC member States.** **The more States** willing to assist the Court, **the more effective** it could become, for example, in the process of obtaining evidence or arresting suspects. The example of Omar Al-Bashir above demonstrates cooperation even from signatory States remains lacking. The very design of the ICC entrenches a two-pillar system where the Court serves as the judicial pillar while States act as the enforcement pillar. Without State cooperation, the Court is rendered unworkable as it has no enforcement mechanism of its own. Furthermore, lack of cooperation could increase the operating costs and diminish the Court’s ability to deliver justice in the eyes of the victims. Worse still, it might give a false impression to perpetrators that impunity is permissible and would go unpunished, thereby undermining the Court’s credibility.

#### **Strengthens the ICC.**

**Gavino 21** [Gillian Gavino (Gillian Gavino is a second year International Affairs MA student at the George Washington University Elliott School of International Affairs in Washington, DC.), "Catching up to the world: Why the US should join the ICC", 11/15/2021, Rappler, https://www.rappler.com/voices/imho/opinion-catching-up-world-why-us-should-join-icc/]

As Americans reflect on this year’s Nobel Peace Prize winners, how can the US stand in solidarity with those fighting for human rights and assist in bringing international justice? One way is for the US to join the ICC and support its mission of punishing the most serious offenses of international humanitarian law. By joining the ICC, the US can work to bring international justice, while lobbying for needed reforms of the ICC from the inside. The ICC is the world’s court for prosecuting individuals who commit genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, and crimes of aggression. A treaty known as the Rome Statute created the ICC. The Clinton administration initially signed the treaty but did not ratify it pending further review. The Bush administration subsequently notified the UN that it did not intend to pursue the ratification process over concerns of jurisdiction and politically motivated prosecutions against US service personnel. In the meantime, state and non-state actors have continued to commit serious international crimes. The Biden administration has expressed continuing reservations regarding the court, even as it intends to take a less adversarial approach than its predecessor. The Biden administration is opting to address concerns with the court’s stakeholders rather than impose sanctions. However, no policy has been specified. America’s future relationship with the ICC is still undefined. Herein lies a new opportunity for the US to forge a new partnership. Joining the ICC would reaffirm a US commitment to international norms. It would show that the US is willing to work with the international community on issues of law and justice. The US would finally be able to fulfill the obligations it had originally signed up for under the Rome Statute. Joining the ICC would strengthen the court and the effectiveness of international justice. The US is still the world’s only superpower, and the court can benefit from its immense resources. International criminals will think twice knowing that the US and ICC stand together. Joining the ICC would enable the US to push for needed reforms within the court itself. As a member of the court, the United States would also become a member of the court’s Assembly of States Parties which is the legislative body that administers the court. This will give the US leverage and legitimacy in lobbying for reforms. The US would have a true seat at the table within the ICC. Many in the previous administration such as John Bolton heavily criticized the ICC and expressed the fear that US troops might one day be brought before the court. However, the US has the resources and ability to defend itself, justify its actions, and account for its mistakes. As long as the US is able to hold itself accountable, it should have nothing to fear from the court.

#### **Robust empirical studies show the court works**

**Ford 20** [Stuart Ford,  Professor of Law at UIC John Marshall Law School in Chicago, Illinois. “Can the International Criminal Court Succeed? An Analysis of the Can the International Criminal Court Succeed? An Analysis of the Empirical Evidence of Violence Prevention Empirical Evidence of Violence Prevention” Winter 2020 Loyola of Los Angeles International and Comparative Law Review and Comparative Law Review, Volume 43 Number 2 Article 1]

V.SUMMARIZING THE RESULTS OF THE EMPIRICAL STUDIES While many scholars have very strong **opinions** about whether the ICC can prevent violence, it is only in the last few years that we have seen meaningful attempts to test that question **empirically**.158 The research discussed above represents an important new chapter in research about the ICC. For the first time, we can really answer the question of whether the ICC can prevent violations of ICL. All the articles described above come with some caveats. Professor Hillebrecht notes that studying Libya represents a best case for the influence of the ICC.159 However, she also controlled for a number of variables other than ICC intervention that could have affected the civilian death rate in Libya.160 Professor Meernik notes that we don’t know exactly why some states respect human rights and thus improved human rights might be the result of something other than the ICC,161 but he also controlled for a number of variables that we might expect to influence compliance with human rights obligations.162 Professors Jo and Simmons also express some concern about the influence of unobserved variables.163 But, they too used control variables to isolate the effect of the ICC from the effect of other variables one would expect to influence violence.164 Professor Dancy acknowledged that it is hard to isolate the ICC’s effect on conflict termination.165 Professor Appel was concerned that the ICC might appear to reduce violations of human rights if only states that had good human rights records joined the Rome Statute,166 but he chose a statistical test designed to minimize that possibility and used a number of control variables to try and isolate the effect of the ICC.167  Ultimately, there will always be caveats associated with statistical studies – there is always the possibility that the model is effected by variables you have not accounted for.168 Nonetheless, the authors took pains to **control for the variables** (other than the ICC) that were most likely to explain the results. By controlling for such variables, they sought to disentangle the impact of the ICC from the impact of other variables that might affect the results. These efforts help ensure the results are robust. With the exception of Professor Dancy’s work,169 [Footnote 169: Professor Dancy has studied a different phenomenon from the other authors cited in this article and his work is treated separately below.  See infra text accompanying notes 177-186.]  these studies, each using a different data set and a different methodology, independently came to essentially the same conclusion – **the ICC does prevent violence**. Professor Hillebrecht found that the ICC’s intervention in Libya reduced civilian casualties.170 Professor Meernik found that states with a strong commitment to the ICC had fewer human rights violations than other states, independent of their overall commitment to the rule of law.171 Professors Jo and Simmons found that the ICC reduced civilian deaths caused by both the government and rebel groups, though the effect was more dramatic for government forces.172 Professor Appel found that joining the ICC was associated with a reduction in serious human rights abuses.173 We can now say with reasonable confidence that the ICC does prevent violence. Ratification of the Rome Statute is associated with a reduction in violence. Criminalizing violations of international criminal law in domestic law is associated with a reduction in violence. And when the ICC acts, whether to open an investigation, issue an arrest warrant, or try an accused person, there is a reduction in violence. Moreover, these effects appear to be additive.174 There are **no empirical studies** showing that it increases violence.175 While a single article might not settle the question, **a whole series of articles** using different datasets and different methodologies that all come to the same conclusion is **much more persuasive**. In short, when considered together, **the available empirical studies** strongly suggest that the **ICC does prevent violence**. Considering how “highly contested” this question has been amongst scholars,176 the **uniformity** of the empirical results is **particularly striking**.

#### **A strong ICC checks Israel**

**Baker ’24** [Elise; November 27; JD from UC Berkeley Law, BA in mathematics and political science from Williams College; Atlantic Council, “The ICC has issued arrest warrants in the Israel-Hamas war. Now what?” https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/new-atlanticist/the-icc-has-issued-arrest-warrants-in-the-israel-hamas-war-now-what/] recut cpsof

What do the arrest warrants mean for Netanyahu, Gallant, and Israel? The arrest warrants will have **practical**, **tangible** impacts on **Netanyahu** and **Gallant**. All ICC member states have an obligation to arrest those subject to warrants if the suspect is present on their soil. While a handful ICC member states have expressed opposition to the issuance of the arrest warrants, only one member state has explicitly said it would **not comply** with its legal obligations to arrest suspects, which could result in a judicial finding of **noncooperation** and referral to the Court’s Assembly of States Parties for **further action**. Moreover, a larger number of ICC member states—including allies of Israel—have indicated support for the ICC, with some saying they would respect their binding obligations as member states and carry out the arrest warrants. These responses suggest that Netanyahu and Gallant will likely avoid travel to most of the 124 ICC member states for fear of arrest. While Netanyahu has not traveled outside of Israel for more than a year, any **post-conflict travel** has likely been **dramatically restricted**. The issuance of arrest warrants also provides **further indications** that Israeli officials must change their conduct of the war or else risk **additional charges** for war crimes, crimes against humanity, and potentially genocide. The arrest warrants are not, as Israeli Foreign Minister Gideon Sa’ar said, “an assault on Israel’s right to defend itself.” Nor are they a limitation on Israel’s “right to defend its people” following the October 7 attacks, as Israeli President Isaac Herzog said. Instead, they signify the fact that any war, offensive or defensive, must be waged within the confines of **international** **humanitarian law**—a body of law developed by states and militaries and adopted by Israel, intended to limit the impact of war on **civilian populations** and **wounded soldiers**.

#### **Israel’s committing genocide.**

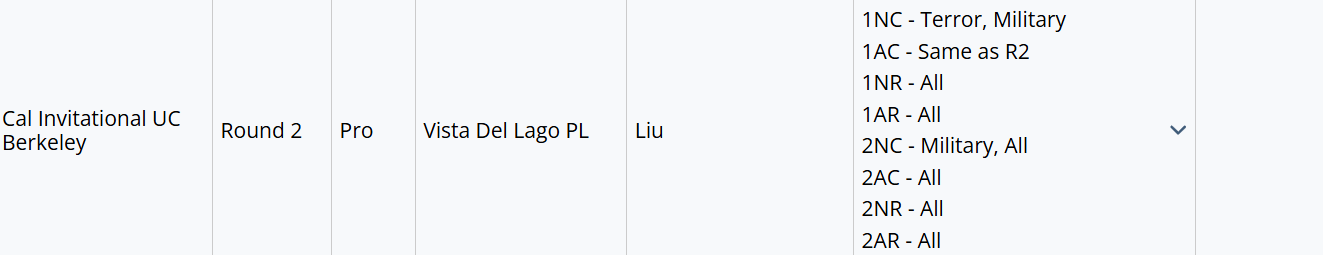
**AI 24** — Amnesty International, 12-5-2024 [Amnesty International is a global movement of more than 10 million people who are committed to creating a future where human rights are enjoyed by everyone. United by our shared humanity, we know that the power to create positive change is within all of us., "Amnesty International concludes Israel is committing genocide against Palestinians in Gaza," https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2024/12/amnesty-international-concludes-israel-is-committing-genocide-against-palestinians-in-gaza/, accessed 1-27-2025] // aari

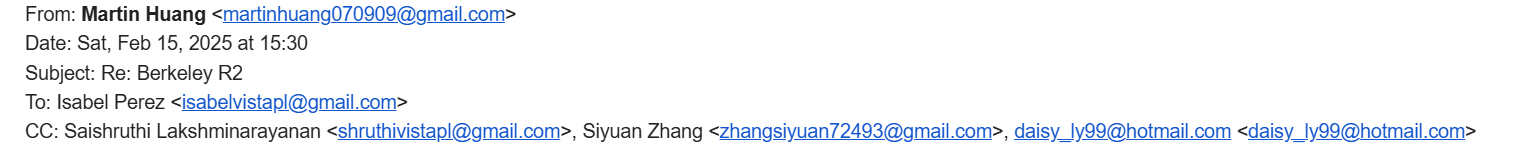
**Amnesty International’s research has found sufficient basis to conclude that Israel has committed and is continuing to commit genocide against Palestinians in the occupied Gaza Strip, the organization said in a landmark new report published today.**The report, ‘You Feel Like You Are Subhuman’: Israel’s Genocide Against Palestinians in Gaza, documents how, during its military offensive launched in the wake of the deadly Hamas-led attacks in southern Israel on 7 October 2023, **Israel has unleashed hell and destruction on Palestinians in Gaza brazenly, continuously and with total impunity. “Amnesty International’s report demonstrates that Israel has carried out acts prohibited under the Genocide Convention, with the specific intent to destroy Palestinians in Gaza. These acts include killings, causing serious bodily or mental harm and deliberately inflicting on Palestinians in Gaza conditions of life calculated to bring about their physical destruction. Month after month, Israel has treated Palestinians in Gaza as a subhuman group unworthy of human rights and dignity, demonstrating its intent to physically destroy them,” said Agnès Callamard, Secretary General of Amnesty International. “Our damning findings must serve as a wake-up call to the international community: this is genocide. It must stop now.**“States that continue to transfer arms to Israel at this time must know they are violating their obligation to prevent genocide and are at risk of becoming complicit in genocide. All states with influence over Israel, particularly key arms suppliers like the USA and Germany, but also other EU member states, the UK and others, must act now to bring Israel’s atrocities against Palestinians in Gaza to an immediate end.” Over the past two months the crisis has grown particularly acute in the North Gaza governorate, where a besieged population is facing starvation, displacement and annihilation amid relentless bombardment and suffocating restrictions on life-saving humanitarian aid.    “Our research reveals that, for months, Israel has persisted in committing genocidal acts, fully aware of the irreparable harm it was inflicting on Palestinians in Gaza. It continued to do so in defiance of countless warnings about the catastrophic humanitarian situation and of legally binding decisions from the International Court of Justice (ICJ) ordering Israel to take immediate measures to enable the provision of humanitarian assistance to civilians in Gaza,” said Agnès Callamard.    “Israel has repeatedly argued that its actions in Gaza are lawful and can be justified by its military goal to eradicate Hamas. But genocidal intent can co-exist alongside military goals and does not need to be Israel’s sole intent.”    Amnesty International examined Israel’s acts in Gaza closely and in their totality, taking into account their recurrence and simultaneous occurrence, and both their immediate impact and their cumulative and mutually reinforcing consequences. The organization considered the scale and severity of the casualties and destruction over time. It also analysed public statements by officials, finding that prohibited acts were often announced or called for in the first place by high-level officials in charge of the war efforts.   “Taking into account the pre-existing context of dispossession, apartheid and unlawful military occupation in which these acts have been committed, we could find only one reasonable conclusion: Israel’s intent is the physical destruction of Palestinians in Gaza, whether in parallel with, or as a means to achieve, its military goal of destroying Hamas,” said Agnès Callamard.   “The atrocity crimes committed on 7 October 2023 by Hamas and other armed groups against Israelis and victims of other nationalities, including deliberate mass killings and hostage-taking, can never justify Israel’s genocide against Palestinians in Gaza.”    International jurisprudence recognizes that the perpetrator does not need to succeed in their attempts to destroy the protected group, either in whole or in part, for genocide to have been committed. The commission of prohibited acts with the intent to destroy the group, as such, is sufficient.   Amnesty International’s report examines in detail Israel’s violations in Gaza over nine months between 7 October 2023 and early July 2024. The organization interviewed 212 people, including Palestinian victims and witnesses, local authorities in Gaza, healthcare workers, conducted fieldwork and analysed an extensive range of visual and digital evidence, including satellite imagery. It also analysed statements by senior Israeli government and military officials, and official Israeli bodies. On multiple occasions, the organization shared its findings with the Israeli authorities but had received no substantive response at the time of publication.    Unprecedented scale and magnitude  Israel’s actions following Hamas’s deadly attacks on 7 October 2023 have brought Gaza’s population to the brink of collapse. Its brutal military offensive had killed more than 42,000 Palestinians, including over 13,300 children, and injured over 97,000 more, by 7 October 2024, many of them in direct or deliberately indiscriminate attacks, often wiping out entire multigenerational families. It has caused unprecedented destruction, which experts say occurred at a level and speed not seen in any other conflict in the 21st century, levelling entire cities and destroying critical infrastructure, agricultural land and cultural and religious sites. It thereby rendered large swathes of Gaza uninhabitable.    Mohammed, who fled with his family from Gaza City to Rafah in March 2024 and was displaced again in May 2024, described their struggle to survive in horrifying conditions:    “Here in Deir al-Balah, it’s like an apocalypse… You have to protect your children from insects, from the heat, and there is no clean water, no toilets, all while the bombing never stops. You feel like you are subhuman here.”    Israel imposed conditions of life in Gaza that created a deadly mixture of malnutrition, hunger and diseases, and exposed Palestinians to a slow, calculated death. Israel also subjected hundreds of Palestinians from Gaza to incommunicado detention, torture and other ill-treatment.    Viewed in isolation, some of the acts investigated by Amnesty International constitute serious violations of international humanitarian law or international human rights law. But in looking at the broader picture of Israel’s military campaign and the cumulative impact of its policies and acts, genocidal intent is the only reasonable conclusion.    Intent to destroy  To establish Israel’s specific intent to physically destroy Palestinians in Gaza, as such, Amnesty International analysed the overall pattern of Israel’s conduct in Gaza, reviewed dehumanizing and genocidal statements by Israeli government and military officials, particularly those at the highest levels, and considered the context of Israel’s system of apartheid, its inhumane blockade of Gaza and the unlawful 57-year-old military occupation of the Palestinian territory.    Before reaching its conclusion, Amnesty International examined Israel’s claims that its military lawfully targeted Hamas and other armed groups throughout Gaza, and that the resulting unprecedented destruction and denial of aid were the outcome of unlawful conduct by Hamas and other armed groups, such as locating fighters among the civilian population or the diversion of aid. The organization concluded these claims are not credible. The presence of Hamas fighters near or within a densely populated area does not absolve Israel from its obligations to take all feasible precautions to spare civilians and avoid indiscriminate or disproportionate attacks. Its research found Israel repeatedly failed to do so, committing multiple crimes under international law for which there can be no justification based on Hamas’s actions. Amnesty International also found no evidence that the diversion of aid could explain Israel’s extreme and deliberate restrictions on life-saving humanitarian aid.    In its analysis, the organization also considered alternative arguments such as ones that Israel was acting recklessly or that it simply wanted to destroy Hamas and did not care if it needed to destroy Palestinians in the process, demonstrating a callous disregard for their lives rather than genocidal intent.    Our damning findings must serve as a wake-up call to the international community: this is genocide. It must stop now.   Agnès Callamard, Amnesty International However, regardless of whether Israel sees the destruction of Palestinians as instrumental to destroying Hamas or as an acceptable by-product of this goal, this view of Palestinians as disposable and not worthy of consideration is in itself evidence of genocidal intent.    Many of the unlawful acts documented by Amnesty International were preceded by officials urging their implementation. The organization reviewed 102 statements that were issued by Israeli government and military officials and others between 7 October 2023 and 30 June 2024 and dehumanized Palestinians, called for or justified genocidal acts or other crimes against them.   Of these, Amnesty International identified 22 statements made by senior officials in charge of managing the offensive that appeared to call for, or justify, genocidal acts, providing direct evidence of genocidal intent. This language was frequently replicated, including by Israeli soldiers on the ground, as evidenced by audiovisual content verified by Amnesty International showing soldiers making calls to “erase” Gaza or to make it uninhabitable, and celebrating the destruction of Palestinian homes, mosques, schools and universities.   Killing and causing serious bodily or mental harm  Amnesty International documented the genocidal acts of killing and causing serious mental and bodily harm to Palestinians in Gaza by reviewing the results of investigations it conducted into 15 air strikes between 7 October 2023 and 20 April 2024 that killed at least 334 civilians, including 141 children, and wounded hundreds of others. Amnesty International found no evidence that any of these strikes were directed at a military objective.   In one illustrative case, on 20 April 2024, an Israeli air strike destroyed the Abdelal family house in the Al-Jneinah neighbourhood in eastern Rafah, killing three generations of Palestinians, including 16 children, while they were sleeping.    While these represent just a fraction of Israel’s aerial attacks, they are indicative of a broader pattern of repeated direct attacks on civilians and civilian objects or deliberately indiscriminate attacks. The attacks were also conducted in ways designed to cause a very high number of fatalities and injuries among the civilian population.    Inflicting conditions of life calculated to bring about physical destruction  The report documents how Israel deliberately inflicted conditions of life on Palestinians in Gaza intended to lead, over time, to their destruction. These conditions were imposed through three simultaneous patterns that repeatedly compounded the effect of each other’s devastating impacts: damage to and destruction of life-sustaining infrastructure and other objects indispensable to the survival of the civilian population; the repeated use of sweeping, arbitrary and confusing mass “evacuation” orders to forcibly displace almost all of Gaza’s population; and the denial and obstruction of the delivery of essential services, humanitarian assistance and other life-saving supplies into and within Gaza.   After 7 October 2023, Israel imposed a total siege on Gaza cutting off electricity, water and fuel. In the nine months reviewed for this report, Israel maintained a suffocating, unlawful blockade, tightly controlled access to energy sources, failed to facilitate meaningful humanitarian access within Gaza,  and obstructed the import and delivery of life-saving goods and humanitarian aid, particularly to areas north of Wadi Gaza. They thereby exacerbated an already existing humanitarian crisis. This, combined with the extensive damage to Gaza’s homes, hospitals, water and sanitation facilities and agricultural land, and mass forced displacement, caused catastrophic levels of hunger and led to the spread of diseases at alarming rates. The impact was especially harsh on young children and pregnant or breastfeeding women, with anticipated long-term consequences for their health.    The international community’s seismic, shameful failure for over a year to press Israel to end its atrocities in Gaza, by first delaying calls for a ceasefire and then continuing arms transfers, is and will remain a stain on our collective conscience.  Agnès Callamard, Amnesty International Time and again, Israel had the chance to improve the humanitarian situation in Gaza, yet for over a year it has repeatedly refused to take steps blatantly within its power to do so, such as opening sufficient access points to Gaza or lifting tight restrictions on what could enter the Strip  or their obstruction of aid deliveries within Gaza while the situation has grown progressively worse.   Through its repeated “evacuation” orders Israel displaced nearly 1.9 million Palestinians – 90% of Gaza’s population – into ever-shrinking, unsafe pockets of land under inhumane conditions, some of them up to 10 times. These multiple waves of forced displacement left many jobless and deeply traumatized, especially since some 70% of Gaza’s residents are refugees or descendants of refugees whose towns and villages were ethnically cleansed by Israel during the 1948 Nakba.   Despite conditions quickly becoming unfit for human life, Israeli authorities refused to consider measures that would have protected displaced civilians and ensured their basic needs were met, showing that their actions were deliberate.    They refused to allow those displaced to return to their homes in northern Gaza or relocate temporarily to other parts of the Occupied Palestinian Territory or Israel, continuing to deny many Palestinians their right to return under international law to areas they were displaced from in 1948. They did so knowing that there was nowhere safe for Palestinians in Gaza to flee to.    Accountability for genocide  “The international community’s seismic, shameful failure for over a year to press Israel to end its atrocities in Gaza, by first delaying calls for a ceasefire and then continuing arms transfers, is and will remain a stain on our collective conscience,” said Agnès Callamard.  “Governments must stop pretending they are powerless to end this genocide, which was enabled by decades of impunity for Israel’s violations of international law. States need to move beyond mere expressions of regret or dismay and take strong and sustained international action, however uncomfortable a finding of genocide may be for some of Israel’s allies.  **“The International Criminal Court’s (ICC) arrest warrants for Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and former Defense Minister Yoav Gallant for war crimes and crimes against humanity issued last month offer real hope of long-overdue justice for victims. States must demonstrate their respect for the court’s decision and for universal international law principles by arresting and handing over those wanted by the ICC. “We are calling on the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC) to urgently consider adding genocide to the list of crimes it is investigating and for all states to use every legal avenue to bring perpetrators to justice. No one should be allowed to commit genocide and remain unpunished.”**Amnesty International is also calling for all civilian hostages to be released unconditionally and for Hamas and other Palestinian armed groups responsible for the crimes committed on 7 October to be held to account. The organization is also calling for the UN Security Council to impose targeted sanctions against Israeli and Hamas officials most implicated in crimes under international law.

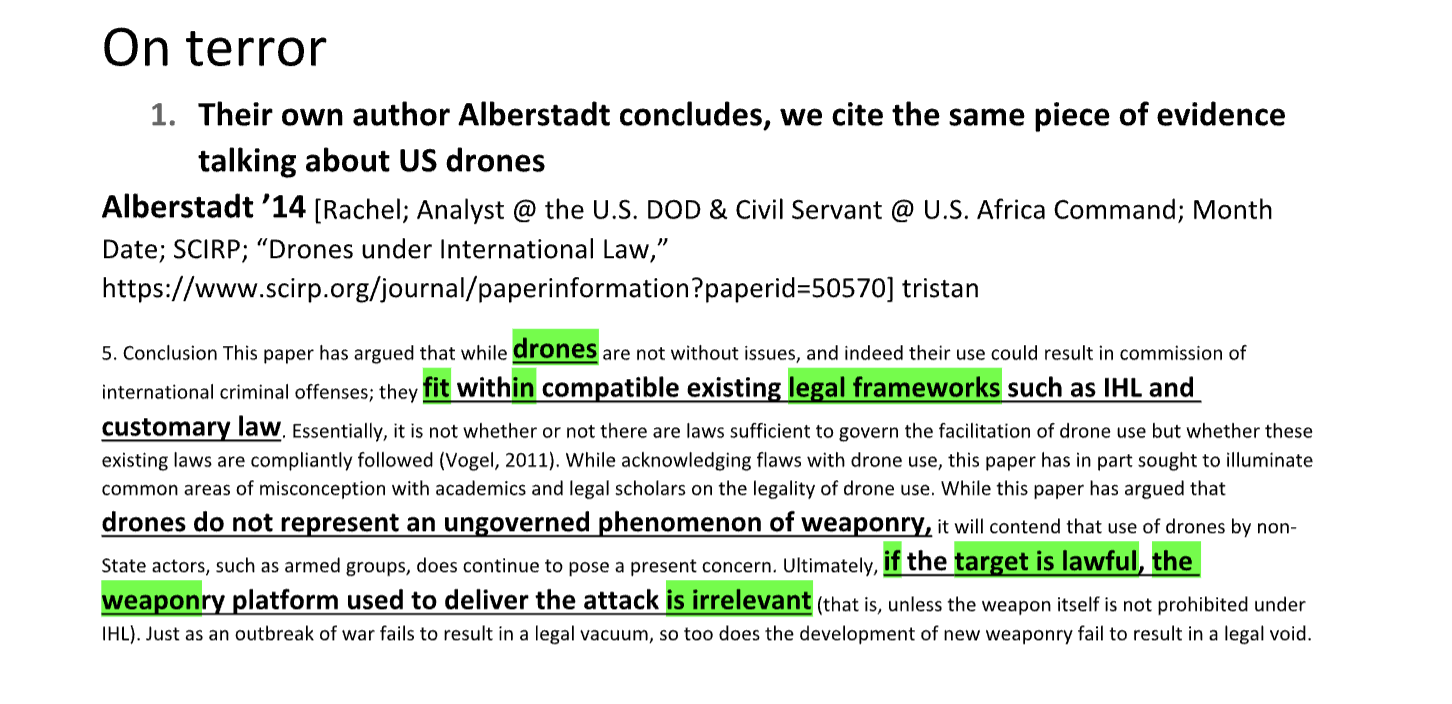
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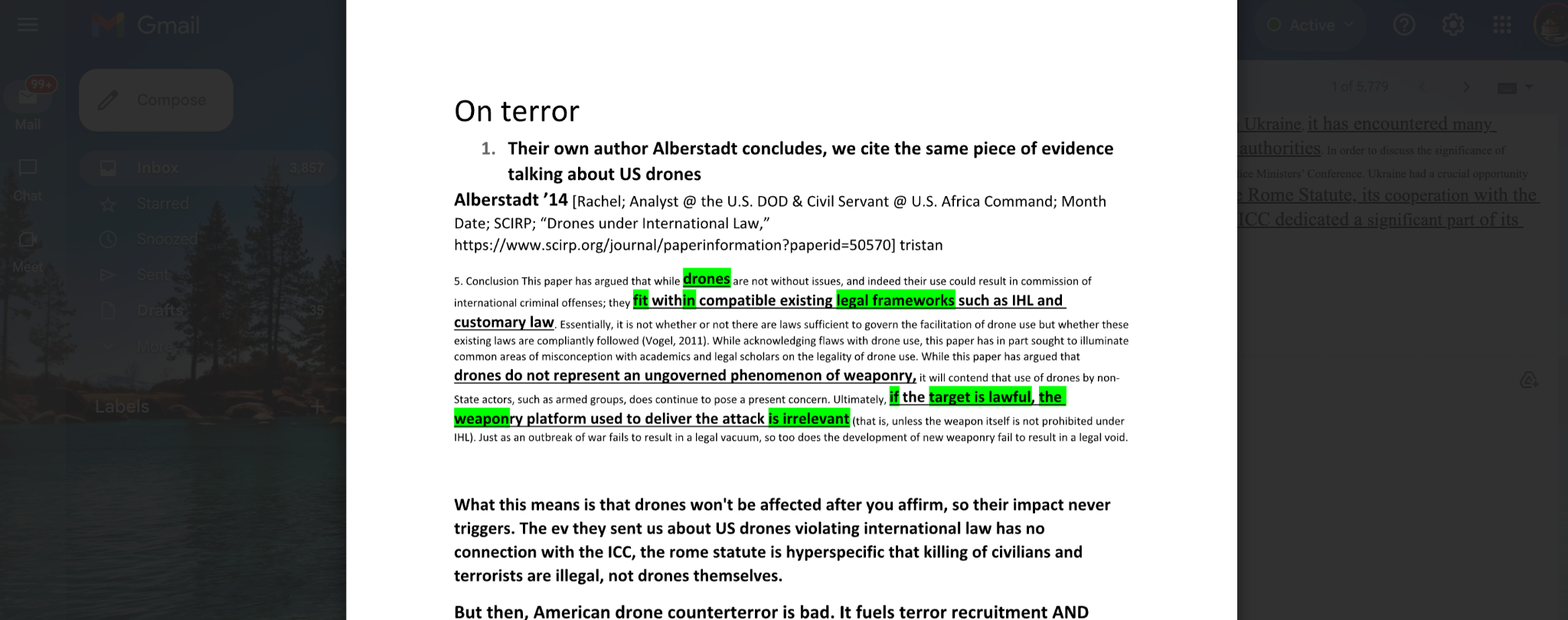
**Interpretation: Debaters must open source disclose (tags, highlights, cites, etc) all previously read evidence on the current topic on the 2024-25 PF OpenCaselist wiki under their team’s proper name and team code at least 30 minutes prior to the current round**

**Violation: they didn't disclose any rebuttal ev but heres the email chain from round - screenshots in the doc prove**

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#### **Standards:**

#### **1. Small Programs – our interp makes it easier to see what good teams read in late outrounds to help new programs prep and drill for tourneys they cant attend. their offense is non-unique because big schools get a large network of docs, flows, etc**

#### **2. Evidence Comparison – disclosing all ev means late speeches have more in-depth analysis and evidence comparison rather than only interacting with tags because of natural time constraints. its best for research and education and “critical thinking” is non-unique because you do the critical thinking out of round anyways and we should rely on good evidence not good analyts**

#### **3. Depth – disclosure encourages a race to the top for evaluating the truth of the resolution and testing cases under any model – outweighs on scope because it incentivizes improving both cases AND blocks**

#### **4. Hiding Ev – any disclosure that isn’t 100% creates a loophole that makes it easier to hide unethical evidence that’s misscut/misstagged**

#### **5. Arbitrariness – they disclose open source only cases which concedes the validity of disclosure and verifiability of the practice meaning their counter-interp needs to be why disclosing an arbitrary amount of evidence is good – our standard isn’t arbitrary because it’s all evidence you read in round which you default to because its most predictable and easiest to follow which controls norm setting.**

#### **We’ll pre-empt contact info:**

#### **A) doesn’t resolve our offense**

#### **B) not our burden**

**C) unmeetable: we only know we are hitting them 30 minutes before the round, so we can’t contact 45 minutes before round or 10 minutes before pairings.**

**Fairness is a voter:**

**a) a game with rules requires equal access and potential to get the ballot**

**b) fairness is a meta-constraint on your ability to evaluate the round, otherwise you actively hack against them**

**Education is a voter:**

**a) constitutive purpose of debate and why school fund it**

**b) only terminal impact and tangible skill we get from debate in the first place**

**Drop the debater:**

1. **deters future abuse because not worth the loss**
2. **punish them for the violation and rectify time lost on theory**
3. **avoid the timeskew from baiting and spamming abusive arguments**

**No RVIs 5 warrants:**

**A. It chills theory for couple reasons:**

**a. We should be allowed to test the legitimacy of the other team. We shouldn’t lose for being wrong, or else nobody would ever risk checking abuse.**

**b. It encourages good debates to be intentionally abusive. People will bait theory and then win off RVIs. This precludes the CI from garnering any offense, otherwise people be abusive and have everything ready.**

**B. It’s Illogical.**

**a. Their RVIs also justify us winning because we were also fair. They shouldn’t win just because they were fair - that’s the baseline and burden for everyone.**

**Competing interps:**

**a) reasonability encourages a race to the margins of what is reasonable – invites judge intervention**

**b) don’t know what rule to follow because they don’t set a clear standard**