

The Albert Einstein Institution Consulting Policy

The Albert Einstein Institution sees its consulting work as one of the ways to share existing knowledge about nonviolent sanctions with people in conflict situations, as stated in the Mission Statement of 1990.

In consulting activities it should be clear that the Einstein Institution is committed to democracy and freedom, the right of peoples to live, liberation from oppression, and to exploring and developing the viability of nonviolent struggle against military attacks and other types of political violence.

The Einstein Institution and its personnel are 'nonpartisan' in the sense that they do not support electoral campaigns of any political party.

It is not the Institution's role to consult on how to defeat a nonviolent struggle movement which is resisting dictatorship, genocide, oppression, or aggressive war. Consultation with both sides in a given conflict is more likely and desirable when the distribution of rights and wrongs between the two contending groups is mixed.

The Einstein Institution and its personnel do not themselves become participants in specific conflicts, as by engaging in civil disobedience or hunger strikes on behalf of the cause of one protagonist.

Nor do the Institution's personnel participate in strategic decision-making.

However, Einstein Institution personnel may prepare general strategic analyses of specific conflict situations, offer critical analyses of the existing strategies (or the lack thereof) in an ongoing conflict, and participate in 'brainstorming' to explore and evaluate strategic options.

Because much of the work of the Einstein Institution is about the use of nonviolent sanctions in place of violence and passivity, consulting may appropriately require contacts with state and non-state actors which have in the past favored or used violence, or which now do so.

All new Einstein Institution consulting initiatives, and significantly new levels of activity in areas where the Institution is already active, are reviewed by the Consultative Committee of the Institution's Board of Directors.

