

## STUDENTS HAVE THE RIGHT TO PEACEFULLY PROTEST, SAYS THE ACLU OF NEW MEXICO

Targeted News Service

May 2, 2024 Thursday 7:40 AM EST

Copyright 2024 Targeted News Service LLC All Rights Reserved



**Length:** 344 words

**Byline:** Targeted News Service

**Dateline:** ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico

### Body

---

The American Civil Liberties Union of New Mexico issued the following news release on May 1, 2024:

Today, following disturbing reports that New Mexico State Police and University of New Mexico (UNM) Police used teargas and arrested protestors on UNM's campus, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of New Mexico warned university leaders and law enforcement that students have constitutionally protected rights to peaceful protest, expression, and speech on public campuses-- even speech that some may find controversial or offensive.

The following statement can be attributed to Peter Simonson, ACLU-NM Executive Director:

"Students have the constitutional right to peacefully protest, speak, and express their opinions. The New Mexico Constitution extends even greater protections in this regard than the U.S. Constitution. Protest is a pillar of democracy and a fundamental freedom that has shaped the history of our nation. We call on New Mexico's college and university leaders and police to respect students' rights to publicly advocate for causes they believe in. The ACLU of New Mexico is closely monitoring the situation.

To be clear, not every form of speech is protected everywhere. However, we are disturbed by the recordings of this week's arrests on UNM's campus and will be investigating. Armed police in riot gear have no place at a peaceful campus protest. Arresting peaceful protestors does not make anyone safer. We urge university leaders to remain flexible and give students space to express their views given the volatility of this moment."

If students believe campus administrators or law enforcement have violated their rights, ACLU-NM encourages them to submit a complaint on our website. Know-your-rights information for protesting on campus is here (<https://www.aclu-nm.org/en/know-your-rights/know-your-rights-while-protesting-campus>).

\* \* \*

Original text here: <https://www.aclu-nm.org/en/press-releases/students-have-right-peacefully-protest-says-aclu-new-mexico>

[Category: Law/Legal]

STUDENTS HAVE THE RIGHT TO PEACEFULLY PROTEST, SAYS THE ACLU OF NEW MEXICO

Copyright Targeted News Services

null-8603704 C24-SH-SudarshH

**Load-Date:** May 2, 2024

---

End of Document

## Biden backs peaceful protest, denounces campus 'chaos' over Gaza

Newstex Blogs

Pennsylvania Capital-Star

May 2, 2024 Thursday 5:11 PM EST

Delivered by Newstex LLC. All Rights Reserved.

Copyright 2024 Pennsylvania Capital-Star

**Length:** 544 words

**Byline:** Ariana Figueroa

### Body

---

May 2nd, 2024 ( Pennsylvania Capital-Star - Delivered by Newstex )

WASHINGTON - President Joe Biden responded Thursday to weeks of protest on college campuses calling for a ceasefire in Gaza with a brief statement that the right to protest should be protected, but 'not the right to cause chaos.'

'We are not an authoritarian nation where we silence people or squash dissent,' Biden said from the White House's Roosevelt Room. 'In fact, peaceful protest is in the best tradition of how Americans respond to consequential issues. But neither are we a lawless country.'

Biden said that the student-led protests have not made him reconsider policy in the Middle East and that he did not believe the National Guard should be authorized in response to protests across the country.

He criticized the protests that have led to classes being canceled.

'Dissent is essential to democracy, but dissent must never lead to disorder or to deny the rights of others so students can finish a semester or finish their college education,' Biden said. 'Order must prevail.'

Students have set up encampments to protest the Israel-Hamas war at about 30 college campuses across the country, including Tulane University in Louisiana and the University of Wisconsin-Madison . Some have turned violent.

Fights broke out Tuesday night at UCLA when counter-protesters attempted to dismantle an encampment set up by protesters on the university's campus, according to NPR.

'Violent protest is not protected,' Biden said. 'Peaceful protest is.'

Student protesters have called for a ceasefire and for their institutions to divest from businesses that are tied to Israel, including companies that make weapons that have been used in the war.

More than 34,000 Palestinians have died in nearly seven months of war, according to the Gaza Health Ministry.

Universities have called in police to sweep the encampments, leading to about 1,300 arrests, according to The Guardian .

## Biden backs peaceful protest, denounces campus 'chaos' over Gaza

### Calls from Congress

Lawmakers have also called on higher education institutions to quell the protests, and have raised concerns about antisemitism.

The House on Wednesday passed a bipartisan bill that would require the Department of Education to use the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's definition of antisemitism.

Republicans and some Democratic advocates of the bill have argued that the protests are a form of antisemitism.

Critics of the bill say it could chill freedom of speech at educational institutions.

Nationwide protests began at Columbia University in New York on April 17 after the university's president, Minouche Shafik, testified before the House Education and Workforce committee about antisemitism on college campuses.

Students pitched tents to establish a 'Gaza Solidarity Encampment.' A day later Shafik authorized the New York Police Department to sweep the area. NYPD officers arrested 108 students - the largest mass arrest on Columbia's campus since 1968, according to the independent student newspaper the Columbia Spectator.

After that sweep, students returned and stayed for two weeks until Tuesday, when hundreds of NYPD officers entered Columbia's campus and cleared the encampments and Hamilton Hall, which students occupied, according to the Columbia Spectator.

[Link to the original story.](#)

## Notes

---

The views expressed in any and all content distributed by Newstex and its re-distributors (collectively, the "Newstex Authoritative Content") are solely those of the respective author(s) and not necessarily the views of Newstex or its re-distributors. Stories from such authors are provided "AS IS," with no warranties, and confer no rights. The material and information provided in Newstex Authoritative Content are for general information only and should not, in any respect, be relied on as professional advice. Newstex Authoritative Content is not "read and approved" before it is posted. Accordingly, neither Newstex nor its re-distributors make any claims, promises or guarantees about the accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of the information contained therein or linked to from such content, nor do they take responsibility for any aspect of such content. The Newstex Authoritative Content shall be construed as author-based content and commentary. Accordingly, no warranties or other guarantees are offered as to the quality of the opinions, commentary or anything else appearing in such Newstex Authoritative Content. Newstex and its re-distributors expressly reserve the right to delete stories at its and their sole discretion.

**Load-Date:** May 2, 2024

# Joe Biden Issues Decision on Sending National Guard to Campus Protests

Newsweek.com

May 2, 2024 Thursday 11:24 AM EST

Copyright © 2024 Newsweek Inc. All Rights Reserved



**Length:** 372 words

**Byline:** Matthew Impelli

**Highlight:** President Biden spoke on Thursday about the college protests taking place across the nation.

## Body

---

President Joe Biden said he will not deploy the National Guard to respond to ongoing pro-Palestinian protests on college campuses across the United States.

During a press conference on Thursday, Biden was asked if he thinks the National Guard should "intervene" in the protests, to which he responded "no," just before walking out of the room.

Recent pro-Palestinian protests have broken out at schools such as Columbia University, Northwestern University, the University of California, Los Angeles, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Protesters have called on the schools to divest from Israel amid the nation's war against Hamas militants in Gaza.

*Newsweek* reached out to the White House via email for comment.

## The Context

Tensions across college campuses have remained high since October 7, 2023, when the Palestinian militant group Hamas launched an attack on southern Israel that left 1,200 people dead and saw over 200 more taken hostage. More than 34,000 Palestinians have died in Gaza since the war began, the Associated Press reported, citing local health officials.

Over 250 protesters at Columbia University were arrested this week after taking over an academic building and barricading themselves inside.

"Approximately 300 people were arrested at Columbia and City College," New York City Mayor Eric Adams said on Wednesday. "We are processing the arrests to distinguish between who we're actual students and who were not supposed to be on the ground."

## What We Know

## Joe Biden Issues Decision on Sending National Guard to Campus Protests

According to the National Guard website, "the President can activate the National Guard to participate in federal missions, both domestically and overseas. When federalized, Guard units fall under the same military chain of command as active duty and reserve troops."

In his press conference on Thursday, Biden said that he is in support of peaceful protests but noted that "it's against the law when violence occurs."

"Destroying property is not a peaceful protest, it's against the law. Vandalism, trespassing, breaking windows, shutting down campuses, forcing the cancellation of classes and graduations, none of this is a peaceful protest," Biden said.

*Update 5/2/24, 11:40 a.m. ET: This article was updated with additional information.*

[Link to Image](#)

## Graphic

---

Joe Biden

DREW ANGERER/AFP via Getty Images/Getty Images

US President Joe Biden speaks about the protests over Israel's war against Hamas in Gaza that have roiled US college campuses, in the Roosevelt Room of the White House in Washington, DC, on May 2, 2024 During his press briefing, Biden said "no" when asked if he thinks the National Guard should be deployed to respond to the protests.

**Load-Date:** May 2, 2024

---

End of Document