

## PEACEFUL PRO-PALESTINE ENCAMPMENTS MUST BE BETTER PROTECTED BY UNIVERSITIES AND POLICE

Impact News Service

May 2, 2024 Thursday

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**Length:** 205 words

### Body

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Turner: The Australian Greens has issued the following news release:

The Victorian Greens have said the university students currently peacefully camped out on campus in support of Palestine must be better protected by their schools and the police.

It follows reports of a Monash University encampment being invaded overnight by a group of seemingly far-right thugs.

According to the reports, they swarmed the camp, destroying infrastructure and shaking tents with young women inside.

Victorian Greens justice spokesperson, Katherine Copsey, said everyone had the right to peacefully protest, and it was disturbing if far-right groups were attempting to threaten and intimidate those doing so.

She said it was incumbent on the universities, as well as Victoria Police, to take the threat more seriously and ensure the protection of those in the encampments.

Quotes attributable to Victorian Greens justice spokesperson, Katherine Copsey:

“The attack on one of these peaceful university student encampments overnight is deeply disturbing.

“The threat of violence towards peaceful protesters is not okay and we must do all we can to call it out.

“The universities and the police must do a better job of protecting these peaceful protesters. ”

**Load-Date:** May 3, 2024

PEACEFUL PRO-PALESTINE ENCAMPMENTS MUST BE BETTER PROTECTED BY UNIVERSITIES AND  
POLICE

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## Students "Draw" Support for Palestine in Peaceful Demonstration - The Bates Student

The Bates Student: Bates College

May 5, 2024 Sunday

University Wire

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 1

**Length:** 463 words

**Byline:** Catalina Passino

### Body

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On Saturday, May 4, the same day as President Garry Jenkins' inauguration, students engaged in a silent demonstration to draw support and awareness around Palestinian lives and suffering as a result of the conflict in Gaza.

Students chalked phrases like "Free Palestine," "From the river to the sea, Palestine will be Free," "Children in Gaza deserve to be children," and "Disclose, Divest, Reinvest" on the walkways from Alumni Walk to Merrill gymnasium.

The silent demonstration was organized by Students for Justice for Palestine, a student organization on campus meant to raise awareness and "support for Palestinian people suffering under Israeli colonialism, apartheid, and military occupation," according to the organization's statement posted on their Instagram.

The demonstration's concurrence with Jenkins' inauguration drew visibility to the club's cause, reaching the campus community, alumni, friends of Bates College and the wider Maine community.

Chalk saying "Free Palestine" written on the walk to Merrill Gymnasium

However, according to Secretary of SJP Poppy Marsh, the club had no intention of stealing Jenkins' spotlight. "We want him to have his day because...it's inauguration, he deserves it," they said.

In addition to drawing attention to the crisis in Gaza and the suffering of Palestinian people, the demonstration was also an invitation to Jenkins and the administration to support and collaborate with SJP.

"We view it as a really great opportunity to extend a hand and be in community with this person who's going to be leading our school and directing our school for years to come," Marsh said.

Students enthusiastically participated in chalking during odd hours of the night, and were grateful for the opportunity to have their voices heard.

## Students "Draw" Support for Palestine in Peaceful Demonstration - The Bates Student

"It gave me hope to see so many students who care, and who seized this opportunity to share this message with the college, as well as other college representatives and Maine politicians and inauguration guests," an anonymous chalker shared.

By chalking these messages on walkways, they aimed to, "express solidarity with fellow students across the country who are facing harassment and arrests by law enforcement and their administrations while protesting...we [also] wanted to emphasize our strong opposition to the war in Gaza, which has cost thousands of innocent civilians their lives," the anonymous chalker said.

Though a contentious topic, SJP President Bissan Kablawi and Marsh emphasized the peaceful nature and pure intention of the demonstration and their organization at large.

"It is never ever going to be about hatred, or it's never going to be about not being in community with people and wanting to work in collaboration with people," Marsh said.

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**Load-Date:** May 5, 2024

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## Study finds 99% of pro-Palestine protests at US universities are peaceful

TRT World

May 3, 2024 Friday

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**Length:** 635 words

### Body

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Data from ACLED, leading source of real-time data on political violence and protest activity across the globe, belies claims of Biden and Trump that Student Spring movement — campus protests against Israel's war on Gaza — is violent.

A new report has found that 99 percent of pro-Palestine protests at US colleges have been peaceful, despite remarks from President Joe Biden characterising such demonstrations as violent and ex-American leader Donald Trump and his fellow Republicans supporting police crackdown on students and scholars.

"While some notable violent clashes have recently taken place, such as on the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) campus, where demonstrators and counter-demonstrators fought at a student encampment overnight on 30 April, the overwhelming majority of student protests since October — 99% — have remained peaceful," data from Armed Conflict Location & Event Data[ACLED] revealed.

ACLED report showed that student-led pro-Palestine demonstrations in the US — dubbed "Student Spring" — have almost tripled from April 1 to 26, surpassing the total for the entire month of March 2024.

"The arrest of more than 100 students at Columbia University in New York around 18 April heralded a new wave of campus demonstrations," said ACLED, a credible source of real-time data on political violence and protest activity around the world.

#ACLED data shows from 7 October 2023 - 26 April 2024, police in the #US have intervened against pro-#Palestine student demonstrations more than four times as often as pro-#Israel demonstrations.

Get the data behind the headlines. <https://t.co/bUBqoJWxnb>

— Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (@ACLEDINFO) May 3, 2024

The burgeoning wave of student protests against Israel's brutal war in Gaza sweeping across top university campuses throughout the US stands as an echo of the anti-Vietnam War movement that indelibly shaped the spirited and often polarising discourse in the nation during the latter half of 1960s and early 1970s.

The ongoing demonstrations not only reflect the deep-seated discontent surrounding the Israel-Palestine conflict in the US civil society and youth, but also serve as a potent precursor to the collective efforts that ultimately brought an end to the Vietnam War.

## Study finds 99% of pro-Palestine protests at US universities are peaceful

### Divestment from entities supporting Israel

ACLED data is a trusted resource for development, humanitarian, and policy organisations worldwide, including the UN and is used by governments globally, including the US, UK, Canada, Europe, Australia.

Since April 18, over 2,300 students and faculty have been arrested on college and university grounds amidst a surge of pro-Palestine protests sweeping across the US.

While protesters' demands vary, a common theme has emerged: urging colleges and universities to divest from entities supporting Israel because of Tel Aviv's role in the widespread killing and mayhem in Gaza, which some experts believe has already assumed genocidal proportions.

### Students strike first victories

The wave of student protests has extended beyond the US, reaching other countries as well including France, Germany, Canada, Mexico, Australia and many Middle East countries.

Protesters in some universities struck initial victories and ceased their demonstrations after school leaders struck deals with them, fending off possible disruptions of final exams and graduation ceremonies.

The agreements at schools including Brown, Northwestern and Rutgers stand out amidst the chaotic scenes and 2,400-plus arrests on 46 campuses across the nation since April 17.

Deals included commitments by universities to review their investments in Israel or hear calls to stop doing business with the longtime US ally. Many protester demands have zeroed in on links to the Israeli military as the Israeli war grinds on in besieged Gaza.

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**Load-Date:** May 3, 2024

## UB STATEMENT ON FRIDAYS PEACEFUL PROTEST

States News Service

May 3, 2024 Friday

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**Length:** 455 words

**Byline:** States News Service

**Dateline:** BUFFALO, N.Y.

### Body

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The following information was released by the University at Buffalo - SUNY:

A protest led by the University at Buffalo Students for Justice in Palestine and others on Friday afternoon on North Campus was peaceful, with no students or other people being arrested.

Prior to the protest, UB officials proactively reached out to UB student protest leaders to reiterate that the university's rules and policies must be adhered to at all times regarding on-campus demonstrations. That includes the prohibition against occupying buildings, as well as overnight assemblies and encampments. Student protest leaders assured UB officials that the protest was intended to be peaceful and follow UB and SUNY rules and policies.

To ensure the safety of the university community, including those protesting, and to protect university operations, UB proactively closed a number of campus buildings and roads before the protest began.

This came after UB Police learned that outside protestors were planning to occupy UB buildings on Friday, and after an incident at Wednesday's protest, in which police turned away a moving truck full of pallets to be used as barricades by an outside group attempting to establish an illegal encampment on UB's campus.

As with previous protests and large events on campus, UB Police and other law enforcement personnel were present on Friday to ensure public order and that protests did not disrupt university operations or activities. This included turning away individuals attempting to enter the campus in cars with camping equipment.

As a result, most classes, events, meetings and lectures on Friday afternoon and evening occurred without interruption. UB also hosted a commencement ceremony on the North Campus, with roughly 150 UB graduates and approximately 1,200 friends, family and school officials in attendance.

Out of an abundance of caution, the University at Buffalo closed roadways and buildings before the protest occurred to ensure the safety of protestors and the campus community. These efforts, combined with outreach to protest organizers, helped ensure the protest did not interfere with university events and operations, while giving protestors space for a peaceful protest march, said Kim Beaty, UB police chief.

With the war continuing to unfold, the university remains deeply aware of how the horrific loss of life is causing immense pain and suffering in the Middle East, on campus and elsewhere in the world. The university remains committed to providing students, faculty, staff and visitors a welcoming, inclusive, respectful and safe environment.

## UB STATEMENT ON FRIDAYS PEACEFUL PROTEST

Again, we state in the strongest possible manner that UB condemns and stands firmly against antisemitism, Islamophobia and discrimination of any form.

**Load-Date:** May 4, 2024

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UK: peaceful student protests on Gaza must be respected

## UK: peaceful student protests on Gaza must be respected

Impact News Service

May 3, 2024 Friday

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**Length:** 227 words

### Body

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London: Amnesty International UK has issued the following press release:

Commenting on the emergence of growing numbers of pro-Palestine solidarity protests at universities across the UK, Tom Southerden, Amnesty International UK 's Law and Human Rights Director, said:

"The right to peaceful protest is fundamental to our democracy and it ' s vital that UK universities and the police respect and protect peaceful student protests on Gaza.

"Peaceful student-led protests are an important part of the movement across the globe against Israel ' s war crimes, apartheid and possible genocide in Gaza.

"The authorities in the UK must avoid the dangerous clampdown we ' ve witnessed at university campuses across the US. "

New wave of protestsIn the past week, students at several UK universities have set up protest encampments to express their solidarity with Palestinians in Gaza and other parts of the Occupied Palestinian Territories. These have come after mass encampments at Columbia University in New York and other universities in the United States, where, in some cases, police and other law-enforcement agencies appear to have used excessive force in breaking up protests and making large numbers of arrests, both of students and members of staff. Amnesty has criticised the response of the authorities at several US universities as "obstructive and repressive".

**Load-Date:** May 11, 2024