IAC ISRAELI AMERICAN COUNCIL

CAMPUS PROTEST DISRUPTION GUIDE

You've seen the ads, the posters and the calls to join an Anti-Israel protest on your campus.

What can you do?

Contact any Pro-Israeli organizations and clubs on your campus and open a "task force" consisting of students that will assist in managing the efforts and take steps into understanding your options.

Can it be prevented altogether?

It Depends on your school. Is your school private or public?
Of course, all campuses in the U.S are privy to freedom of speech, however, more restrictions can be enforced in a private school, as they follow their own guidelines.

Steps to potentially cancel or delay the protest:

- Familiarize yourself with the school's code of conduct. In some cases, anti-Israel disruptions have violated campus policies and even state laws.
  - Did they register their protest with the university through a faculty member, department, or official student group?
  - Are they in compliance with school policies?If you believe violations of university policy occurred, discuss options for filing a complaint with administration officials and/or campus police.
  - Does the protest violate schools ethics and discrimination laws?
  - Print campus policies as a reference in case security or police involvement is necessary.
- Alert campus security and request an increased security presence. Only campus security and the police are authorized to handle and/or remove protesters.
- Instruct your community to avoid engaging, approaching, confronting or touching protesters.
- Designate a spokesperson. Anticipate questions from students, faculty, staff, and the local community, both leading up to a controversial protest and in the event of actual violence.
- Share a joint statement of support with as many pro-Israel organizations, clubs, faculty members and students and post it online (student club social media pages, etc).

*** Private schools:
Contact your school administration and find out if a petition can be drafted and signed by students to prevent the protest from happening.

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During Your Event

- Document the event NON-STOP! Pictures, videos etc. It is true, it is within their civil rights to protest, but if it turns into spewing threats, we need to know! We would like to collect as much footage as possible so a legal case can be made.
- Continue filming disruptors until the last person leaves the protest area. Do not follow!
- Do not engage, confront, approach, touch, entertain or instigate! We have zero tolerance for any involvement!
- Encourage witnesses from your community to share their experiences on social media and in campus news outlets.

After the event:

Continue gathering for vigils, friendly marches and civilized rallies in solidarity with the victims families and in honor of our state of Israel.
Schedule your gatherings at different times and locations of anti-Israel protests

Understand Legal Considerations

Campus protests can have legal implications.

- Know the law regarding the use of your public spaces: Public and private institutions face different restrictions on the use of public spaces. While it may be impossible to exclude a group or speaker, institutions often can restrict a protest's location, time, and nature.
- Presence of trained campus security forces: Whether your campus has a sworn police department or private security force, ensure campus security is equipped and trained to deal with potential violence.
- Take additional steps if your campus allows visitors to carry weapons. Consult with legal counsel to understand whether it is possible to impose weapon restrictions at a potentially violent protest.
- Work with local police. Reach out to local law enforcement and be prepared to request help.