

Julie Dachtler

From: christoph.gumb@chrisgumb.com
Sent: Saturday, January 20, 2024 10:57 AM
To: Oscar Villegas; Angel Barajas; Jim Provenza; Mary Vixie Sandy; Lucas Frerichs; Clerkoftheboard
Subject: No Ceasefire Resolution
Attachments: Untitled attachment 00004.txt; signature.asc

Hello -

My name is Christoph Gumb; I live in Yolo County.

I ask the Board of Supervisors not to pass a resolution calling for a ceasefire in the current conflict between Israel and Hamas because this resolution would take sides for a terrorist organization, sow division in Yolo County, stoke existing fears amongst the Jewish population, create an unwanted precedent, open up the Board to accusations of antisemitism, and is utterly pointless.

A ceasefire resolution supports terrorism: On October 7, 2023, Hamas, a terrorist organization, broke an existing ceasefire, entered Israeli territory, and raped, tortured, and kidnapped Israeli citizens. Current estimates place the number of murdered Israeli citizens at over 1,200. In response, Israel exerted its right to defend itself and its abducted citizens. Throughout the conflict, Hamas systematically used civilians as human shields. The Israeli Defence Forces take historically unprecedented actions to reduce the number of civilian casualties. According to experts, a ceasefire at the current moment would unilaterally benefit Hamas since it would allow the organization to recover and rearm. A call for a ceasefire would simply put the Board of Supervisors in the camp of a terrorist organization that contradicts everything American values stand for.

A ceasefire resolution sows division and stokes fears: Study after Study shows that the majority of Americans support Israel in this conflict. A call for a ceasefire is not neutral but supports one side in the conflict. As is well documented by Law Enforcement, Antisemitism has reached historic levels not only globally, but also in the United States. This is reflected locally: Congregation Beth Haverim in Davis had to close its doors in mid-October because it received a warning from the Department of Homeland Security. Within the schools of DJUSD, several incidents targeting Jewish children occurred. A resolution that openly takes sides in this conflict would further stoke fears among the Jewish citizens of Yolo County.

A ceasefire resolution creates an unwanted precedent. The current war between Israel and Hamas is by no means the only international conflict. What is the Board's resolution on Russia's genocidal war against Ukraine (there are many ethnic Ukrainians in Yolo County)? Did the Board pass a resolution on the murder of more than 200,000 civilians in Syria? What about the ongoing violent conflict in the Sahel? How concerned is the Board about the casualties of the Nagorny-Karabakh conflict?

A ceasefire resolution opens up the Board for accusations of Antisemitism. In 2010, the State Department included in its definition of Antisemitism the application of double standards for Israel. By singling out the war against Hamas and denying Israel the right to defend itself, a ceasefire resolution fulfills this definition of antisemitism.

A ceasefire resolution is pointless. It is doubtful that any of the relevant actors in the Middle East will pay attention to a resolution by the Yolo County Board of Supervisors.

Thank you,

Christoph Gumb

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