



# Speak Out Now

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## Government Stands Nearly Alone in Support of Gaza Genocide

Israel has surrounded Gaza, taking control of all of Gaza's entry points. One million people fled their homes and now are crammed into Rafah, the most densely populated place on earth. Israel ordered 100,000 people to evacuate, but without delay began to drop bombs. Hospitals cannot function: they have no supplies. Food has not entered Gaza for days, and prices are skyrocketing. People live in fear of being unable to feed their families. Israel has banned Al Jazeera, a Qatari news network, citing "national security" for its coverage of the genocide in Gaza. Over 35,000 Palestinians are dead, largely women and children.

Last week, negotiations broke down yet again between Israel and Hamas, the ruling party in Gaza. Hamas agreed to the terms of a ceasefire, but Israel refused, and instead continued its attacks on Rafah. The Israeli government has been consistent in its goals: to occupy all of Gaza, regardless of the impact on civilian lives.

This has brought the Netanyahu government under increased scrutiny of people within Israel. Families of the hostages have been protesting for months—pressuring their government to come to an agreement that prioritizes getting their family members home. Many Israelis disapprove of Netanyahu's strategy, which has made it challenging for him to keep the governing coalition together.

Pressure is also mounting in the United States against this government's policies towards Israel. A huge part of the U.S. population is appalled by the genocide happening before our eyes. A student revolt has spread across nearly 100 campuses where peaceful encampments have sprung up. Biden condemned these protests, calling them "violent" and "antisemitic." In fact, 97% of these protests have been peaceful, without causing any serious property damage. Overwhelmingly, they specify that they stand against Zionism (the political project of creating a Jewish nation-state at the expense of other people), while being

against any acts of hatred against Jewish people. Despite this, there have been 2,600 arrests at these campuses.

The Democratic Party runs many local governments and has often been the party responsible for a huge build-up of police forces that have been used against protesting students. In Pennsylvania, Democratic governor Josh Shapiro told the University of Pennsylvania to "restore order and safety on campus," putting pressure on the university to call in the police.

On May 10, the United Nations General Assembly voted overwhelmingly to recognize Palestine as a state. It was the second such vote in recent weeks. The U.S. vetoed the first one and was expected to do that again. The same day, the U.S. State Department released a report admitting it is likely that U.S.-supplied weapons are being used by Israel to conduct war crimes. The U.S. is breaking international law by supplying weapons to a country that is systematically denying humanitarian aid to civilians. The State Department still maintains its policy of support for Israel despite this.

The fact that the Biden administration stopped one arms shipment and is reviewing others speaks to the pressure the administration is under during an election year. Fearful of losing the election, Biden is forced to navigate a tricky situation with voters who are increasingly opposed to the U.S.-sponsored genocide. As one journalist pointed out, "they used to say Arabs can't have democracy because it'd be bad for Israel. Now the U.S. can't have it either."

The protests and pressure from young people have turned up the heat on politicians. None of this is enough to make them change their positions significantly. Their response is due to temporary discomfort in an election year. To end the U.S. empire that supports brutal regimes like Israel around the world, it will take a much broader mobilization. The students are right to oppose the genocide in Gaza. We must all oppose it in any way we can.

## The Student Movement Survives against Attacks

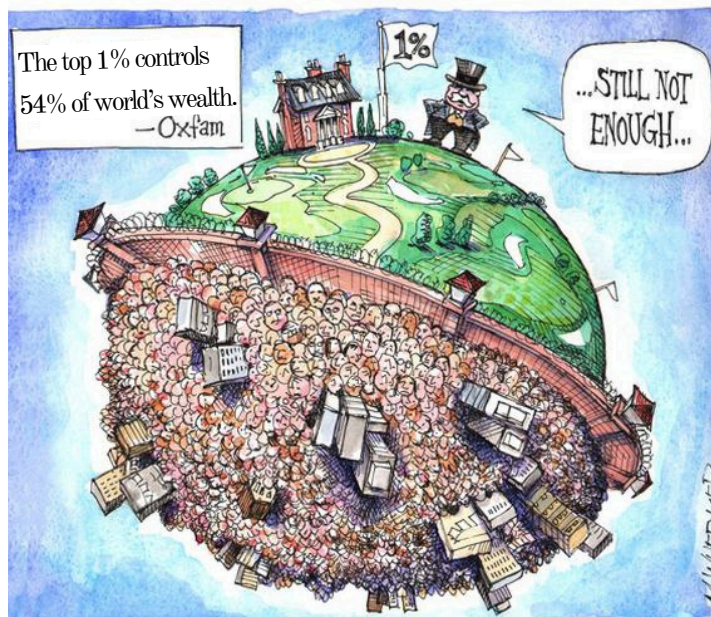
Since student encampments began at Columbia University, demanding the university break ties with Israel, the student movement has continued and spread! Condemnation of the movement has been harsh and unrelenting. Right-wing Republicans demand that students be expelled and scholars be fired for taking a stand in support of Palestinian lives. Joe Biden and other Democrats focus on supposed antisemitism rather than the deaths of tens of thousands of Palestinians.

Police repression began rapidly despite the peaceful nature of the protests. At universities, cops have arrested and beaten protesters and professors, while Zionist thugs have attacked peaceful protesters. Nationwide, more than 2,500 peaceful protesters have been arrested so far.

Despite the verbal and physical repression, the movement has continued. Thousands of young people have chosen to put their bodies on the line, viewing their small amount of suffering as nothing compared to the horror that Gazans are experiencing.

While it remains to be seen where this movement will lead, students are once again showing us a way forward. But to stand up to political repression, bring an end to U.S. support for Zionism, and end imperialism entirely, they will need the support of the working class. Only the larger working class can help the students bring the normal functioning of capitalist society to a halt until the carnage in Palestine ends.

Let's build a movement of students and workers to end the genocide in Palestine!



## Our World is on Fire

New levels of extreme weather are wreaking havoc on millions. In the U.S., heavy rain in Texas damaged hundreds of buildings and required over 600 rescues. Severe storms in the central U.S. resulted in widespread destruction, power outages, and dozens injured. Southern Brazil experienced its largest climate catastrophe yet, with at least 78 deaths and 115,000 forced from their homes. The storm destroyed roads and bridges, and the total damage is estimated to be \$1 billion. In Kenya, intense rains left over 228 people dead, 23,000 households displaced, and the water supply contaminated by open sewers. In the aftermath, Kenya's government ordered evacuations and demolitions of homes, leaving thousands without shelter.

As global temperatures rise, scientists warn we are likely to have more extreme climate events. And temperatures will worsen. Hundreds of top climate scientists expect global heating to rise to at least 2.5C (4.5F) above preindustrial levels.

Working-class and poor people bear the brunt of these calamities. We have to act now to end this system and avoid even worse environmental catastrophes.

## Workers are Getting Even Less of the Pie

In late April, the Bureau of Labor Statistics released a report that said that the national income share for workers went from 64.1% in 2001 to 55.8% in 2024. Workers went from receiving nearly two-thirds of the value of the work they did, to just over half. And where does the difference go? Into the bosses' pockets! In recent decades, the one percent has taken over \$50 trillion from the bottom 90%. Their incomes have increased by 171.1% while our incomes have only increased by 32.9%.

We have been struggling to get by with falling wages and sky-high prices. As a result, many of us fall into debt to pay our bills. The big bosses can live in luxury while we break our backs. This is unacceptable; we do the work to make our workplaces function. We produce the value. Why should they pocket it?

We live in the wealthiest country in the world, and it is our labor that has created all of this wealth. We aren't the ones who benefit from this. The super rich — the bosses of the big corporations and banks — keep the wealth and make all the decisions. Working people do the work that makes society run, and we can organize to unite our forces. When we do, we have enormous power to change things and make a better world.

**We Need to Organize!**  
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