

# **Motion on Israeli academic institutions in the Occupied Palestinian Territories**

## **Submitted to the EASA Members' Forum by six members**

14 August 2018

The submitting members request that the Members' Forum debate and adopt the following motion:

### **The European Association of Social Anthropology notes the following:**

1. That on 12 February 2018 the Israeli Knesset passed a law extending the jurisdiction of the Israeli Council for Higher Education to academic institutions exclusively serving Israeli citizens but situated within the occupied Palestinian territory of the West Bank;
2. That the establishment of academic institutions intended exclusively to serve the population of an occupying power in an occupied territory while denying service to the occupied population, is not only illegal under international law but violates the basic ethical norms of the academy in general and of anthropology in particular;
3. That on 17 February the Co-Presidents of the Israeli Sociological Association (ISA) declared their association's opposition to this step and refusal to cooperate with the aforesaid institutions; that on 2 March, the Executive Committee of the Israeli Anthropological Association (IAA) also declared its opposition to the law, and that on 26 June the membership of the IAA voted by a large majority to affirm its opposition to the law and its refusal to cooperate with the aforesaid institutions;
4. That under the current political and legal climate in Israel, including the so-called "Boycott Law," our colleagues in both the ISA and the IAA have run a significant risk by taking this principled stance.

### **EASA therefore resolves as follows:**

1. To express its own opposition to the establishment and regularization of academic institutions intended exclusively to serve the population of an occupying power in occupied territories, and specifically of institutions exclusively serving Israeli citizens situated within the occupied Palestinian territory of the West Bank, and to pledge its own non-cooperation with these institutions;
2. To express its solidarity with Palestinian academics and students suffering the brunt of these discriminatory and illegal policies as well as with the Israeli colleagues of the ISA and IAA who have taken a brave stance in opposing the same policies.