

Implementation Guidelines for the EASA Motion Concerning Collaborations with Israeli Academic Institutions

At the EASA2024 conference, a group of members presented <u>a motion concerning collaborations</u> <u>with Israeli academic institutions</u> in light of the ongoing systematic human rights violations in Palestine, Israeli war crimes, crimes against humanity and plausible genocide committed in the Gaza strip, calling on EASA to suspend collaborations with Israeli academic institutions, such as universities, colleges, research institutes, scholarly associations, think tanks, publications, and publishing houses. Following the public vote at EASA2024, where a high majority supported sending the motion to electoral vote, 1455 members voted in November 2024 (44.5% turnout), with **1137** (78%) voting in favour, 253 (17%) against, and 65 (4.5%) abstaining.

This means that:

- EASA commits itself to not collaborate with Israeli academic institutions until Israel complies with International Law and International Humanitarian Law and ends the occupation of the Occupied Palestinian Territory.
- the EASA Executive Committee will work in consultation with the Working Group on Human Rights and Academic Freedom to give effect to the spirit and intent of this motion, in a manner consistent with EASA's bylaws as well as the relevant national laws of its members.
- EASA encourages its members not to enter into institutional arrangements, e.g. through common research projects and grants, and partnerships with Israeli academic institutions.

EASA's institutional severing of ties with Israeli academic institutions is limited to EASA—as an association—and refers to refraining from formal collaborations with Israeli academic institutions. By refusing to engage in official partnerships with Israeli academic institutions, EASA is committed to never develop ties with these institutions unless Israel complies with international law and ends the occupation of the Occupied Palestinian Territory. The motion targets collaborations with academic institutions, however it **does not per se target individuals, even those based at Israeli institutions**. In this regard, it cannot be considered discriminatory. In addition, these implementation guidelines align and are consistent with the 2022 EASA executive decision to cut ties with Russian institutions following the invasion of Ukraine, delisting them from the 2022 EASA conference.



Members are free to pursue collaborations with individual researchers and students who are based at or employed by these institutions. However, we caution against any collaboration with individuals whose research is directly complicit with the settler-colonial regime and the military apparatus enabling the plausible genocide of and human rights violations against Palestinians.

In addition, we strongly advise against any activity that might involve the transfer of funds to Israeli academic institutions, the acquisition of funds from them, or the increase of their visibility and prestige. This does not contradict the Association's adamant dedication to promoting anthropological knowledge and safeguarding academic freedom.

In light of the mission and basic values of the Association, the Executive Committee commits to and strongly recommends all EASA bodies to take the following course of action from July 2025 onward with the publication of these implementation guidelines:

- To not list Israeli academic institutions in EASA's published materials. In that regard, the Executive Committee of the EASA will ensure that all publications, conference programs, and directories do not list Israeli academic institutions;
- To not advertise Israeli academic institutions in EASA publications, websites, and other communications channels. Hereby, the Executive committee will instruct NomadIT to not list Israeli academic institutions in the conference submission portal, in the EASA members directory, and to block institutional advertising submissions and institutional job postings;
- To not allow the participation of Israeli academic institutions in joint conferences or events with EASA and its networks;
- To not republish and reprint articles from EASA publications in journals and publications owned by Israeli academic institutions. In that regard, the Executive Committee will update publication agreements with Social Anthropology/Anthropologie Sociale as well as with the EASA book series to provide clear guidelines for handling acknowledgments of institutional funding and institutional republication rights.

In line with the motion, we strongly recommend EASA members to take the following course of actions:

• Do not attend academic events sponsored by Israeli academic institutions, including conferences, symposia, workshops, exhibitions, and other activities;



- Refuse academic positions, membership, enrollment in educational programs, and research and teaching jobs and honorary positions at Israeli academic institutions;
- Decline funding, honors, prizes, and awards conferred by Israeli academic institutions;
- Do not publish, serve on the editorial board, or act as a reviewer for Israeli publications and research funding agencies;
- Do not collaborate with or invite academic projects, events, and activities that receive funding from Israeli academic institutions or through the Israeli government;
- Refuse service work for Israeli academic institutions such as sitting on PhD committees, writing letters for admission, hiring, promotion, or tenure or acting as external examiners for dissertations and theses. Individual scholars who wish to write such letters for students or colleagues are advised not to address those letters to Israeli institutions (so as not to legitimise them) and instead to use a dossier service;
- Consider extending the severing of ties to non--Israeli academic institutions and events that are explicitly collaborating with Israeli academic institutions;
- Declare publicly, if possible, any refusal to participate in an activity due to the motion along with the reasons for declining cooperation. We recognise that people who are at risk of retribution may not be able to publicly declare their support for the motion, especially if they fear being denied entry into Palestine/Israel and need to travel there for work, family, or other reasons. Likewise, we understand that students and those in precarious employment situations may need to carefully weigh the consequences of public declarations.

EASA's severing of ties with Israeli academic institutions **does not per se prevent**:

- Individuals affiliated with Israeli academic institutions from registering for and attending EASA conferences;
- Individuals affiliated with Israeli academic institutions from serving as journal editors or Network convenors/EASA elected officials;
- Individuals affiliated with Israeli academic institutions from publishing in EASA journal and book series;
- Israeli university libraries from subscribing to EASA journal;
- Offering informal mentoring or advising of scholars at Israeli institutions or writing reference letters for jobs or fellowships for Israeli scholars at non--Israeli institutions;



• Conducting research in Israel/Palestine in itself is not covered by the motion. The severing of ties does not apply to research carried out at Israeli facilities such as archives as long as no official affiliation with those facilities (e.g. in the form of a visiting position) is necessary.

The Executive Committee will monitor and evaluate the situation and determine whether collaborations can be re-established once Israel complies with international law and has (1) recognised the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people under international law and (2) moved to end any complicity with the violation of these rights. Scholars who would like to comply with this motion, but face persecution and repression in their home institutions and national contexts should reach out to the EASA Executive Committee and to the Working Group on Human Rights and Academic Freedom, who will advise, on a case-by-case basis, on the best course of action as to a) support compliance with the spirit of the motion and b) minimise individual risks and dangers for scholars under pressure to accept collaborations with Israeli academic institutions. For legal support, scholars in challenging situations are advised to consider reaching out to the European Legal Support Center.