

**BARUCH COLLEGE
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT
FALL TERM TWO THOUSAND TWENTY**

RESOLUTION NO. Res-000-002

AUTHORED BY:

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A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE IHRA DEFINITION OF ANTISEMITISM

**THE UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT OF BARUCH COLLEGE
ENACTS:**

1. **WHEREAS**, Baruch College aims to create and sustain a community that embraces diversity in all its forms, challenges preconceptions and supports the understanding of systemic structures of power and injustice; thus, we are inclusive, welcoming and empowering to all members of Baruch College;
2. **WHEREAS**, Baruch College is a top 3 American college for ethnic diversity (Under Sources, Citation 1) and an institution that supports the rights and safety of all of its students, including Jewish students;
3. **WHEREAS**, Jewish undergraduate students are subjected to discrimination and harassment in person (Under Sources, Citation 2), in the classroom (Under Sources, Citation 3), and on social media (Under Sources, Citation 4), to the detriment of their personal educational experiences and the broader Baruch College community culture;
4. **WHEREAS**, antisemitism is a prejudiced attack on the Jewish people's ethnic, national, religious, and cultural identity. With over 3,000 antisemitic attacks nationally since 2015 at colleges and universities, including but not limited to Nazi salutes, antisemitic graffiti, and battery;
5. **WHEREAS**, according to the the most recent FBI report, almost sixty percent of religiously motivated hate crimes were committed against Jews, totaling over 900 attacks against Jews.
6. **WHEREAS**, the NYPD has reported a 19% increase in hate crimes- fueled by a drastic rise in antisemitic attacks (Under Sources, Citation 5);

7. **WHEREAS**, over the course of one week almost a year ago today, there were eight attacks committed on Jews within NYC, along with a mass-stabbing in a rabbi's home in upstate NY (Under Sources, Citation 5);

8. **NOTING THAT**, There have been a number of antisemitic incidents at CUNY in recent years. These incidents include:

- (The City College of New York-2018) Swastikas and the words "White Power" were written on the "Hillel" sign posted on the door of the shared Hillel and Chabad office on campus.
- (Medgar Evars- 2015) [A Jewish student was assaulted](#), punched in the head, face, and stomach, and told "I don't like white and Jewish boys, leave the school you Jew".
- (Queens College- 2019/2020) Swastikas were found in [Queens College](#) restrooms.
- (CUNY LAW-2020) A Jewish student dropped out after [antisemitic attacks](#) and bullying, as well as a lack of recourse from school administration.

9. **FURTHER NOTING**, that in August, 2020 there was significant spike in attacks on Jews at college campuses, including,

- University of Southern California (USC) Student government VP resigned after antisemitic bullying.
- The Chabad house at University of Delaware was the victim of an arson attack.
- Brandeis University, founded by Jews when Jews were not allowed into colleges and currently approximately 33% Jewish, was the victim of a bomb threat.
- Chabad at the University of Oregon was the victim of two arson attacks.

10. **WHEREAS**, The [International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance \(IHRA\) definition](#) and examples of antisemitism, adopted by 19 countries, is utilized by all U.S. administrative agencies investigating antisemitism, as well as the Department of State and the Department of Education - Office of Civil Rights. This definition has been adopted by the USG at City College, CUNY, USG at Pace University, USG at Silicon Valley University and many other colleges across the country, as well as all of the colleges and universities in the United Kingdom;

11. **EQUALLY IMPORTANT TO NOTE**, that this document and policy do not take away the rights of students to criticize Israeli policy. Criticism of Israeli policy is valid and necessary when Israel's right to exist is not called into question. Therefore be it;

12. **RESOLVED**, that the Undergraduate Student Government of Baruch College adopts the IHRA definition and examples of antisemitism, and let it be

13. **FURTHER RESOLVED**, recommends that Undergraduate Student Government recommend that Baruch College adopt the IHRA definition of antisemitism in its governing documents and its guidance for any relevant policies. Let it be;

14. **FINALLY RESOLVED**, that it be recommended that Baruch College include in any anti-discrimination or bias training for administrators, faculty, and students, an understanding of antisemitism based on the IHRA definition.

Citations

[Citation 1.](#)

Citations 2-4

Citation 5: Hate Crimes

[Citation 2a.](#)

[Citation 5a.](#)

[Citation 2b.](#)

[Citation 5b.](#)

[Citation 3.](#)

[Citation 4a.](#)

[Citation 4b.](#)