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The University of Haifa's Stance on Academic Boycott

The University of Haifa stands firmly against any academic boycott of individuals and universities in Israel. Such boycotts undermine the fundamental principles of academic freedom and the exchange of ideas and collaborative spirit that drive innovation, progress, and change.

The University of Haifa, a leading institution in northern Israel, stands as a testament to the power of higher education in bridging divides and promoting peace and true dialogue. As the most diverse university in Israel, we proudly host a varied faculty and a student body where approximately forty percent are Palestinian-Israeli. This diversity makes our campus a place of coexistence and dialogue. It is a place where students and faculty from all backgrounds come together to pursue academic and professional knowledge, and to create a better future. The University of Haifa strives to foster a space that enables respectful discourse for all members of our diverse community and is committed to protecting freedom of expression.

The University of Haifa serves as a beacon of knowledge and excellence, transcending political boundaries fostering mutual understanding and respect among diverse cultures and beliefs. Israeli Academia in general and the University of Haifa in particular – given its unique profile – strives to provide equal opportunity and to facilitate the integration of minorities in Israeli society.

The University of Haifa has initiated several programs aimed at promoting a just Israeli society and a better future in the region. Such programs include research collaboration with Arab countries in the region and beyond; promoting interfaith relationships and dialogue; emphasizing diversity, inclusion and community impact, and many more. Boycotting Israeli academia would lead to the deterioration of these significant achievements.

The University of Haifa believes everyone is bound by the law, including the International Humanitarian Law. It denounces any violation of such laws and calls on all parties to the current horrible armed conflict to comply with their legal obligations. Boycotting Israeli academic institutions de facto targets and harms Israeli students and researchers. Academic boycott defeats its own purpose, because it silences the exact voices you want heard, those promoting peace and dialogue and condemning violence. Academic boycott weakens moderate voices within Israeli society that call for political dialogue and a diplomatic solution to the Jewish-Palestinian conflict. A boycott would serve the interest of extremists on both sides of this fierce ethno-national divide. It is through engagement with international academia, not isolation, that we can best address and resolve the complex challenges we face. Please stand by us, not against us.

The University of Haifa Management