



IlliniPAC - Illini Public Affairs Committee

Statement on “Smashing Fascism: Radical Resistance Against White Supremacy” and Organizing Registered Student Organizations

On Tuesday September 5th, Registered Student Organizations at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) will be hosting a radical anti-fascist demonstration on the Main Quad.

The leading organization, Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) at UIUC shared the event on their Facebook page on Friday, September 1st, and are quoted saying, “There is no room for fascists, white supremacists, or Zionists at UIUC.”

The following day, SJP shared and quoted an article stating, “The confluence of fascism and Zionism is becoming more obvious by the day.” The quoted article appears on the online news platform “*Mondoweiss*” which in the last number of years has been called out for its anti-Semitic language and imagery by countless sources in addition to continuous anti-Zionist stories.

The University of Illinois Student Code states that “Registered Organizations and Registered Student Organizations shall not practice discrimination against a member or prospective member on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation...” Furthermore, the Student Code asks students to live up to a series of values, and states: “These values include the freedom to learn, free and open expression within limits that do not interfere with respect for the dignity of others, and personal and institutional openness to constructive change.”

In a trying time in our country, it is important to see students step forward to stand for unity and inclusivity in this nation. IlliniPAC strongly condemns white supremacy and fascism in every form. Our organization would like to stand in solidarity with our fellow peers but now do not have that ability due to being isolated for how we identify. Our organization promotes an inclusive campus and welcomes students of all faiths, backgrounds, cultures and identities.

The actions of the organizers are in clear violation of these elements of the Student Code and should be treated as such. Anti-Zionism is the new form of anti-Semitism and must be recognized and treated promptly with this in mind. We call on the administration to take immediate action against the organizations and organizers and reaffirm the University’s commitment to public safety and to the rights of each student.

About us: Illini Public Affairs Committee (IlliniPAC) is a bipartisan organization of pro-Israel students at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign dedicated to strengthening the relationship between the United States and Israel. IlliniPAC advocates for bipartisan Congressional support for a strong U.S.-Israel alliance, educates the student body on the importance of supporting Israel, and engages student leaders across campus to promote a pro-Israel environment at the University. Learn more at illinipac.org/about.