

For Immediate Release

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NYU Law Students for Justice in Palestine ("LSJP") Statement

New York, NY (*April 25, 2022*) – The events at NYU Law over the past two weeks are representative of the broader global reaction to the Palestinian movement for liberation over the past century. Again and again, resistance to the Israeli occupation is met with immediate bad faith conflations of anti-Zionism with anti-Semitism–an endeavor that only succeeds in undermining Jewish safety–as well as attempts to publicly sanction individuals and organizations and other concerted efforts to distract from the violent Israeli occupation and apartheid that Palestinians are currently living under. The harassment that students in solidarity with Palestinian liberation have faced is nothing in comparison to the violation of human rights that Palestinian people are subjected to on a daily basis.

We are disappointed that some of our classmates, NYU Law's administration, and right-wing media outlets have focused on targeting students who speak out against apartheid, rather than condemning the Israeli occupation forces that are currently bombing Gaza, attacking Palestinian worshippers at Al-Aqsa Mosque during the Holy month of Ramadan, and invading the homes of Palestinians.

Only days ago, the Israeli military stormed Al-Aqsa Mosque and attacked worshippers for the fifth time this month, <u>injuring more than 150 people</u>. <u>29 Palestinians have been killed by</u> <u>Israeli forces in the West Bank in April 2022 alone</u>. Israel has bombed Gaza, the most densely populated part of Palestine that is home to over 2 million Palestinians, twice in the last week alone including on April 21st when Israeli warplanes bombed a residential neighborhood in central Gaza. Additionally, earlier this week, 18-year-old Hanan Khdour died from injuries after Israeli soldiers shot her as they invaded her hometown of Jenin and opened fire on civilians.

This violence is only the most recent development in the constant Israeli colonial violence against Palestinians. In the <u>May 2021 attacks alone</u>, Israeli forces killed at least 192 Palestinian civilians, many in refugee camps and residential communities. At least 70% of these attacks killed only civilians, illustrating Israel's <u>systematic targeting</u> of all Palestinians simply for

being Palestinian. The refusal to consider Palestinian deaths as civilian deaths is further evidence of the dehumanization of Palestinians.

NYU administration has neither publically condemned this brutality nor offered any support for Palestinian students witnessing the violence inflicted upon their homeland. Instead, it has chosen to suppress the political expression of students, both Jewish and non-Jewish, who are voicing their dissent against these atrocities. We reiterate that **all** loss of life produced by the occupation is tragic, while proudly continuing to stand in solidarity with the Palestinian people.