



## Yeshiva University

Office of the President

Dear Friends,

It is more important than ever that we stand together with Israel against Hamas. Today we have launched a broad-based national coalition of university and college presidents who are standing together to fight against terrorism.

The following letter was sent today to all university and college presidents calling for their support of the statement below. Please let the university and college presidents in your network know about this national effort so they can add their support by emailing: [StandWithIsraelAgainstHamas@yu.edu](mailto:StandWithIsraelAgainstHamas@yu.edu).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Ari Berman'.

Rabbi Dr. Ari Berman  
President, Yeshiva University

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Dear Colleagues,

Last week, we were all horrified and sickened upon learning of the terrorism and brutality of Hamas. The massacre in Israel placed a national spotlight on the reactions of college presidents and their campuses.

A coalition of institutions of higher education, including public and private colleges and universities, faith-based colleges and universities, and Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU's) has articulated a statement with moral clarity, standing with Israel, the Palestinians who suffer under Hamas' cruel rule in Gaza and all people of moral conscience.

While some of you may have already issued a statement to your campuses, there is unparalleled strength in our institutions of higher education supporting each other and rallying together to lay the moral groundwork on which all civil dialogue is naturally based.

The unprecedented broad-based coalition from all across the country is testament to the importance and urgency of this effort, and we look forward to acknowledging the leadership of all who participate by publishing the full list of supporters.

We invite you, presidents and chancellors of all U.S. and global colleges and universities, to be a partner in this historic moment for higher education – by sending an e-mail directly to [StandWithIsraelAgainst Hamas@yu.edu](mailto:StandWithIsraelAgainst Hamas@yu.edu).

On a personal note, I have been deeply inspired by the wisdom, leadership and kindness of all of my colleagues with whom I have discussed this effort. I was in Jerusalem at the time of the first terrorist attack, running to the safety room during an intense aerial raid, and being a part of building this national effort has affirmed for me once again the common humanity and decency that unites us all.

Thank you in advance for your consideration,

Ari Berman  
President, Yeshiva University

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### **We Stand Together with Israel Against Hamas**

We are horrified and sickened by the brutality and inhumanity of Hamas. Murdering innocent civilians including babies and children, raping women and taking the elderly as hostages are not the actions of political disagreement but the actions of hate and terrorism. The basis of all universities is a pursuit of truth, and it is times like these that require moral clarity. Like the fight against ISIS, the fight against Hamas is a fight against evil. We, the presidents and chancellors of universities, colleges and higher education associations across the United States of America and the world, stand with Israel, with the Palestinians who suffer under Hamas' cruel rule in Gaza and with all people of moral conscience.

#### **Coalition Founders (alphabetical order)**

- Ari Berman, President, Yeshiva University
- Lola W. Brabham, President, Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities
- Terrence Chang, Chancellor, Connecticut State Colleges and Universities
- Rochelle L. Ford, President, Dillard University
- E. Gordon Gee, President, West Virginia University
- Shirley Hoogstra, President, Council for Christian Colleges, and Universities
- John I. Jenkins, President, University of Notre Dame
- John B. King, Chancellor, The State University of New York (SUNY)
- Ronald D. Liebowitz, President, Brandeis University

- Linda Livingstone, President, Baylor University
- Michael L. Lomax, President, United Negro College Fund
- Félix V. Matos Rodríguez, Chancellor, The City University of New York
- Marty Meehan, President, University of Massachusetts

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## Coalition Founders



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