

One-Page Summary

The ***Antisemitic Activity and Anti-Israel Bias at the Center for Near East Studies, University of California at Los Angeles 2010 – 2013 Report*** tracked antisemitic discourse and anti-Israel bias in public events sponsored by UCLA's Center for Near East Studies (CNES) over a three-year period, from 2010 – 2013. During that period, CNES received \$1.5 million from the Department of Education under Title VI. The results of the report indicate that CNES has a troubling anti-Israel bias, which distorts its scholarly and educational mission and is a violation of its federal funding requirements.

Methods

AMCHA Initiative investigated all public events pertaining to Israel, utilizing a systematic definition of antisemitic activity that included 10 categories of antisemitic behavior or discourse, with 8 of the categories culled from the U.S. State Department's definition of antisemitism. The events were also examined for anti-Israel bias, defined as pervasive criticism of Israeli government policies, society and/or people. In addition, AMCHA noted the total number of public events sponsored by CNES that pertained to all countries of the Middle East. Biographical information was also prepared about every speaker and the three CNES Directors.

Findings

- **CNES Israel-related events had an overwhelmingly anti-Israel bias:** Of the 28 Israel-related events, 93% were anti-Israel;
- **Most CNES Israel-related events contained anti-Semitic content:** Of the 28 events, 75% contained anti-Semitic content;
- **CNES had disproportionate focus on Israel:** Of all the public events pertaining to significant Middle East political conflicts, 61% focused on the Arab-Israeli conflict, significantly more than any other conflict. In addition, events were held about 14 Middle East countries. Of those countries, 27% of the events were about Israel, four times more than any other country except Iran;
- **CNES favors speakers who engaged in anti-Semitic activity:** Of the 31 speakers at the CNES Israel-related events, 84% have engaged in anti-Semitic activity, including the demonization and delegitimization of Israel, denying Jews the right to self-determination, comparing Israelis to Nazis and condoning terrorism;
- **Each CNES director had engaged in anti-Israel and anti-Semitic activity:** All three CNES directors from 2010-2013 publicly opposed the UC Israel Abroad Program, despite touting the public abroad program as part of the center's fulfillment of the Title VI funding requirement. In addition, each of the directors endorsed boycotts of Israel, and one is the founder of the U.S. Campaign for the Academic Boycott of Israel.
- **CNES Supported by Saudi government:** Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests revealed CNES received a donation of \$10,000 - \$20,000 from the Saudi government-owned Arabian American Oil Company. The Saudi website also includes openly anti-Israel and anti-Semitic discourse.