

**Subject: Report on Anti-Zionist Activism of UCSC's Critical Race and Ethnic Studies Department**

**Date:** January 11, 2024 at 8:04:49 AM PST

Dear University of California Regents, President Drake, and Attorney General Bonta:

We would like to bring to your attention a detailed report entitled “Anti-Zionist Advocacy and Activism of the Critical Race and Ethnic Studies Department at University of California Santa Cruz,” that our organization, [AMCHA Initiative](#), recently released (see attached or at [this link](#)). The report provides extensive evidence that faculty in the Critical Race and Ethnic Studies Department (CRES) at UC Santa Cruz have been using their departmental status and the University’s name and resources to promote anti-Zionist propaganda and activism that demonize and delegitimize the Jewish state and seek its elimination. We believe such behavior not only violates UC Policy and California law, but breaches the most basic standards of scholarship, coerces the consciences of students and fellow faculty, and incites harm toward members of the UCSC community, especially Jews.

As co-founders of an organization that investigates and combats antisemitism on campuses across the country and former UC faculty ourselves (one of us at UCSC), we are particularly sensitive to the deleterious impact of departmentally sanctioned and sponsored anti-Zionism on Jewish students. Our [research](#) has consistently shown that on campuses where individual faculty and departments use educational spaces for anti-Zionist political advocacy and activism, rates of antisemitic activity – including assaults, threats of harm, vandalism, and bullying – are significantly elevated. Against the backdrop of a more than [700% increase](#) in campus antisemitism since Hamas’ horrific massacre of Israeli civilians on October 7, 2023, CRES’s unbridled expression of animus towards the Jewish state and its supporters can’t help but contribute to a hostile, antisemitic environment for Jewish students, faculty and staff at UCSC.

We hope that after carefully reviewing the evidence in our report, you will conduct a thorough investigation of UCSC's Critical Race and Ethnic Studies Department and ensure that all violations of University policy and state law are vigorously addressed.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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