



ADL and AEN Condemn Latest Remarks from AAUP President

August 20, 2025: The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) and the Academic Engagement Network (AEN) strongly condemn AAUP President Todd Wolfson's recent comments championing a boycott of Israel, opposing all military aid to Israel, and characterizing Israel's war against Hamas, a recognized foreign terrorist organization, as "genocide." Such rhetoric is deeply troubling and fuels hostility against Jewish and Zionist individuals in academic spaces and beyond.

By targeting and singling out Israel with discriminatory boycotts, isolating scholars and institutions, and promoting inflammatory accusations, the AAUP is creating an environment where Jewish and Zionist members no longer feel represented or protected within the association. The role of AAUP leadership should be to encourage robust study and rigorous debate of such contentious issues - not to plant the organization firmly on one political side, thereby silencing dissent and undermining the very academic freedom it purports to defend.

With the leadership's latest move to isolate Jewish and Zionist faculty, the AAUP has moved even further away from its mission.

Their positions are not only wrong on the merits but they politicize the organization in ways that erode trust, compromise its credibility, and alienate members who expect the AAUP to uphold academic freedom and professional standards, not to serve as a vehicle for divisive and hostile political campaigns.

This is not an isolated incident but part of an escalating pattern of extreme political stances at the AAUP. Last year, under Wolfson's leadership, the organization reversed its longstanding opposition to academic boycotts, undermining academic freedom and setting dangerous precedents. The AAUP has since [partnered](#) with radical anti-Israel groups, further entrenching a one-sided agenda and [advancing](#) the inflammatory charge of "scholasticide."

Far from advancing justice, these actions promote division, threaten open intellectual exchange, and weaken the very foundations of inclusion and academic freedom.