

# **Club Constitution Palestine Solidarity Committee (IU)**

## **Article I. Name of Club**

This Club shall be known as Palestine Solidarity Committee (Solidarity Committee).

## **Article II. Purpose of Club**

### **Section 1: Mission Statement**

The official mission statement of Solidarity Committee is as follows:

1. Advocating for the end of the occupation of the West Bank and Blockade of Gaza
2. Recognizing the fundamental rights of the Arab-Palestinian people worldwide
3. Recognizing the rights of equality for Arab-Palestinian citizens of all nations
4. Advocating for a just solution to the Palestinian refugee crisis and doing so in accordance to UNGA Resolution 194

## **Article III. Qualification of Membership**

### **Section 1: Nondiscrimination**

Solidarity Committee welcomes individuals of all backgrounds to join. This includes all IU students, faculty, staff, and members of the community. Any undergraduate student of IU may become a member of the club. This club honors the Student Government full participation policy of undergraduate students

### **Section 2: Voting Members.**

Any undergraduate IU students may be a voting member as long as they attend a minimum of 2 meetings or events per year and support the club's mission statement.

### Section 3: Voting Member Removal

A voting member can be removed through a majority vote by the executive board. A vote cannot occur until the individual being removed has been given at least five minutes before the board to defend their case. The individual is not required to accept these five minutes or speak in front of the board. The following is a non-exhaustive exemplary list of potential reasons for removal:

1. Excessive absence
2. Harassment or assault of any kind
3. Working against the mission of Solidarity Committee
4. Actions which defame the group
5. Discriminatory behavior or bigotry

### Section 4: Nonvoting Membership

Any undergraduate or graduate IU student or faculty member may be a non-voting member of the club. In order to become a non-voting member one must attend 1 club event/meeting per year

### Section 5: Nonvoting Member Removal

A nonvoting member can be removed through a majority vote by the executive board. A vote cannot occur until the individual being removed has been given at least five minutes before the board to defend their case. The individual is not required to accept these five minutes or speak in front of the board. The following is a non-exhaustive exemplary list of potential reasons for removal:

1. Excessive absence

2. Harassment or assault of any kind
3. Working against the mission of Solidarity Committee
4. Actions which defame the group
5. Discriminatory behavior or bigotry

## Article IV: Officers

### Section 1: Qualifications

Only full-time undergraduate IU students may be officers of the club. All club officers must be in good academic standing according to the IU to become and remain officers of this club.

### Section 2: Executive Board Positions

#### 1. President

- a. Serves as the chief executive of the club
- b. Calls as well as preside over meetings of the club
- c. Calls executive board meetings of the club
- d. Serves as the liaison between the club and the IUSG administrative offices
- e. Takes care that this constitution and the laws of the student body and IUSG are faithfully practiced and executed.
- f. Performs any administrative power or duty not provided for in this constitution.
- g. Monitors the group finances alongside the Treasurer

#### 2. Vice President

- a. Exercises presidential office upon absence of the president.
- b. Assumes presidential office upon vacancy of the president.

- c. Oversees external affairs and relations with organizations on campus

### 3. Treasurer

- a. Keeps complete and accurate account of the club's funds
- b. Puts in requests for use of club funds
- c. Prepares the annual budget request packet with the President
- d. Reports to the President on all relevant financial matters

### 4. Secretary

- a. Takes minutes at Club meetings
- b. Sends out emails and reminders to Solidarity Committee list-serv
- c. Maintains complete and accurate records of all club meetings
- d. Reports to the President
- e. Handles social media advertisement and postings with an advertising team.

## Section 3: Officer Removal

A. An officer can be removed through a majority vote by the executive board. A vote cannot occur until the individual being removed has been given at least five minutes before the board to defend their case. The individual is not required to accept these five minutes or speak in front of the board. The following is a non-exhaustive exemplary list of potential reasons for removal:

1. Violation of the IUSG policies
2. Violation of the rules and regulations set forth in the current university student rules and regulations and this constitution.

3. Failure to perform the duties of the office as set forth in the constitution and bylaws of the club
4. Failure to uphold the mission statement of the club
5. Abuse of power
6. Excessive absence
7. Harassment or assault of any kind
8. Working against the mission of Solidarity Committee
9. Actions which defame the group
10. Discriminatory behavior or bigotry

## Article V. Government

### Section 1: Events

- a. Executive board responsible for general body meetings, events, fundraising

### Section 2: Executive Board Meetings

- a. Weekly or bi-weekly executive board meetings will be held to create and discuss events
- b. Attendance of all officers is required for e-board meetings

### Section 3: Quorum

- a. Quorum shall be used for elections, amendments, and impeachments.
- b. Quorum for elections is based on the following:
  1. All executive board running candidates must be present at the elections meeting.
  2. Current executive board members must be present at the

elections unless one has a legitimate excuse to be absent then their absence is okay. These legitimate excuses include illness, school-related events, or anything of what the board determines to be of similar severity.

c. Quorum for amendments is based on the following:

1. Current executive board members must be present at the amendments unless one has a legitimate excuse to be absent then their absence is okay. Legitimate excuses are defined above in (i)(2).
2. The amendment shall pass with a majority vote. Otherwise, if majority vote was not reached, a re-vote occurs after opening the floor for a quick discussion about the amendment.
3. If majority vote was not reached after the discussion, then amendment shall not pass and the meeting shall be adjourned.
4. All top

d. Quorum for impeachments is based on the following:

1. All top 4 executive-board members must be present, including the officer/s being impeached
2. Acceptable rationales for impeachment are listed under Article IV, Section 3 “Officer Removal”

## Section 5: Elections

A. Only voting members of the Club may be allowed to run for office and vote in the Club election.

B. Officer elections must take place before the last day of classes of the spring semester of that year. Elections shall occur within the month of April in the spring semester.

1. In the event an election cannot take place before the last day of spring semester classes, the existing officers will remain as

the officers for the summer. A new election must take place by the first of October of the upcoming fall semester.

C. Nominations must be submitted online via Google Forms prior to elections.

1. Nominees must be voting members of the club.
2. Nominees may be nominated for multiple positions only if the club approves this prior to the nomination period beginning.
3. Once the nominees accept their nomination, then they're officially running candidates.
4. Self-Nominations are also accepted.

D. Candidates:

1. Will provide the members with up to a three-minute speech expressing their reasons for running.
2. Failure of the candidate to show up for election will forfeit their chance of running for the chosen position.
3. Candidates will be provided with a five-minute question and answer session.

E. The election will preside in this order:

1. President
2. Vice-President
3. Treasurer
4. Secretary

F. The candidate will be elected based on most votes received.

Therefore, there will be no run-off votes. Majority wins.

G. If there is a tie in a situation of two candidates running for the same position, then one of the following options can be chosen:

- a. Both candidates will be given an extension on their question and answer session in order to give the voters an opportunity

to revote. The extension of the question and answer session shall be done as a motion and shall be seconded in order to start it.

- b. Both asked a set of questions by an outsider of the club who is not a club member or who is a club nonvoting member and then a re-vote occurs.
9. Current President can run the elections but cannot vote. Otherwise, if the president wishes to vote, then elections and credentials committee shall be present to run the elections.
- H. The newly elected executive board will take office after the last day of classes of the spring semester of that year, however the winners of the elections will be required to work with the current person holding their office in order to effectively transition responsibilities. Former executive board members can help and advise the current members as needed.
  - I. The club can add officer positions as needed with a majority of the executive board approving the addition.

### Section 3: Impeachment/Removal Process

- A. As stated in Article IV, Section 3, Grounds for removal of an officer are as follows:
  - 1. Violation of the IUSG policies
  - 2. Violation of the rules and regulations set forth in the current university student rules and regulations and this constitution.
  - 3. Failure to perform the duties of the office as set forth in the constitution and bylaws of the club
  - 4. Failure to uphold the mission statement of the club
  - 5. Abuse of power
  - 6. Excessive absence



7. Harassment or assault of any kind
  8. Working against the mission of Solidarity Committee
  9. Actions which defame the group
  10. Discriminatory behavior or bigotry
  11. The procedure to call for removal are as follows:
- B. The president and vice president, together, must present the member in question will asked for their letter of resignation via email, as well as provided with at least one reason as to why it is requested
1. If the individual declines to present their letter of resignation, they must get the support of 50% remaining executive board members to call a special meeting of the voting members of Solidarity Committee. If they cannot get this executive board support, they will be removed.
  2. If they can get this support, the charges against them will be explained to the members of the meeting. The individual being removed will then provided a minimum of five minutes before voting members of Solidarity Committee to dispute the charges. Voting members may ask as many questions of the individual or those looking to remove them as they see fit.
  3. At the same meeting, the voting membership with a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote shall decide the removal of the offending officer
  4. If the offending officer is removed, the guidelines in this constitution under officer vacancy are to be followed

#### Section 4: Resignation/Vacancy of Office

- A. In the event an officer wishes to resign, the resigning officer must

inform the current executive board. They are required to continue in their current position until it is filled.

- B. In the event the positions of Vice President or Secretary is vacant, the President will take up the role until it is filled. In the event the position of Treasurer is vacant, the Vice President will take up the role until it is filled.
- C. When a vacancy occurs, members eligible to fill it must be notified immediately and given one week to voice their interest.
- D. The position will be filled via an email poll, which includes at a minimum a name and a personal statement of interest from every individual looking to fill the vacancy. Only voting members should receive the email.
- E. If the position of President becomes vacant, the Vice President will automatically assume the position and the above procedure will be carried out for the position of Vice President.

## Article VI: Amendments

- A. Any voting member may propose an amendment to the club Constitution by proposing a written amendment to the officers.
  - 1. The person must explain their proposal and why they think it will benefit the organization.
  - 2. The executive board must vote to proceed from that point
  - 3. The amendment must be voted on within two weeks when it is presented to the executive board.
- B. Amendments to this constitution and by-laws may not violate any IUSG, IU, Indiana State, or Federal rules, regulations, or laws.

## Article VII. Miscellaneous

- A. As a member club of the IU Student Association, Solidarity Committee respects the views and opinions of all.

- B. Solidarity Committee shall serve as a safe space for all people.
- C. Solidarity Committee respects the Student Association's rules and regulations and follows the non-discrimination policy of the IU.
- D. Solidarity Committee takes responsibility for the actions of its members only under supervised Solidarity Committee events.
1. However, any actions taken outside of the perimeters of the club, in person or online on social media such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, ... etc do not reflect on Solidarity Committee as a club.
  2. Members are responsible for their own actions, postings, and profiles on their own social networking pages.
  3. Solidarity Committee should not be held accountable nor responsible for any controversial or questionable acts that may occur outside of the perimeters of the club.
  4. Solidarity Committee has its own social media websites.
  5. Solidarity Committee does not condone any violence, but instead promotes peace and unity amongst all on and off campus.
- E. Solidarity Committee commits to respect the privacy and security of all members. As such, no one outside of the executive board should have access to the names or email addresses of Solidarity Committee members unless compelled by law.
- F. **Statement of University Compliance:** This organization shall comply with all Indiana University regulations, and local, state and federal laws.
- G. **Anti-Hazing Policy:** Hazing is strictly prohibited. Hazing shall be defined as any conduct which subjects another person, whether physically, mentally, emotionally, or psychologically, to anything

that may endanger, abuse, degrade, or intimidate the person as a condition of association with a group or organization, regardless of the person's consent or lack of consent.

H. **Personal Gain Clause:** This organization, if raising funds, shall ethically raise and distribute profits from organizational functions to either the organization or to members who provide a service that directly benefits the organization. Individual members may not receive compensation from for-profit companies if acting as a representative of a student organization.