# University of Pennsylvania Addresses Antisemitism Amidst Israel-Hamas Conflict



At the University of Pennsylvania, a "no hate on campus" rally organized by pro-Israel faculty and students took place on April 28, 2024, amidst ongoing protests concerning the conflict between Israel and Hamas. Pro-Palestine demonstrators were present, separated by a barricade and walkway. Subsequently, a report by the University Task Force on Antisemitism, formed by former president Liz Magill, was released on May 30, 2024. This report suggested bolstering the Jewish Studies program, integrating antisemitism awareness in mandatory inclusion training, and enhancing recruitment efforts for Jewish faculty and students.

In March, the police dismantled a pro-Palestinian encampment on campus, resulting in 33 arrests, including nine Penn students. Following this event, the report provided recommendations to increase awareness and identification of antisemitism without calling for changes to open expression guidelines. The task force emphasized the importance of discriminating against individuals based on being a Zionist as a form of creed-based discrimination. Further recommendations included reissuing the university's opposition to divestment and boycotts against Israel.

Additionally, the University of Oxford saw support from 12 Jewish faculty members for pro-Palestine protests on campus. These faculty published an open letter on May 27, 2024, criticizing the conflation of anti-Israel sentiment with antisemitism and highlighting the lack of dialogue with administration. They expressed solidarity with Gaza and called for constructive conversations with student protesters. The university's vice-chancellor responded by seeking to discuss the concerns raised in the letter.