# Protest at Columbia University Supports Palestinians and Congressman Ro Khanna Addresses Free Speech



**Protest at Columbia University Supports Palestinians**

On April 29, protesters gathered at Columbia University in New York to express support for Palestinians. Participants included students and community members who aimed to draw attention to the struggles faced by Palestinians.

**Congressman Ro Khanna's Speech**

Ro Khanna, a Democrat representing California’s 17th Congressional District, addressed issues of free speech, campus protests, and the moral responsibilities accompanying dissent. He emphasized the importance of condemning hate while protecting free expression, referencing lessons from past campus protests during the Vietnam War era.

Khanna also underlined the significance of understanding and respecting differing narratives without resorting to harassment or intimidation. He called for a balanced approach to handling campus protests without compromising on safety or free speech.

**Antisemitism in the UK Post October 7 Hamas Attack**

In the UK, antisemitism has risen since the Hamas attack on October 7, significantly affecting the Jewish community. Incidents include verbal harassment and physical attacks, such as a Jewish man being stabbed in Zurich and a synagogue being firebombed in Berlin. The rise in antisemitic hate crimes has coincided with large-scale protests against Israeli actions in Gaza.

The pervasive myths and stereotypes about Jews and their association with Israel contribute to this animosity. The heightened hostility has created an environment where Jewish individuals face daily abuse and social isolation, especially evident in educational settings.

**Reflections on the Broader Impact**

The increase in antisemitism highlights the enduring nature of anti-Jewish myths and their influence on contemporary society. It has rekindled fears within the Jewish community and underscores the need for a broader societal reckoning with these deep-seated biases.

In conclusion, recent events have brought to light the volatility surrounding ethnic and political tensions on campuses and within communities. Both supports and oppositions to Palestinian issues demonstrate the complex interplay of free speech and moral responsibility in democratic societies.