Zionism in the Modern World Resolution

Resolution JYA 2202 – 9

The Israel and Diaspora Committee of the first annual Jewish Youth Assembly is,

RECOGNISING the multifaceted nature of Zionism, while acknowledging its core definition as the national liberation movement of the Jewish people and their right to have a homeland,

AFFIRMING the right of all peoples, including the Jewish people, to self-determination as ensured by Article 1 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,

DEEPLY CONCERNED with the current threats to Zionism, including misinformation and misrepresentation, and its consequences in severing the ties of many in the Diaspora with their ancestral homeland,

CONCERNED at the extent to which Jewish communities are rejecting the fundamental principles of Zionism,

AFFIRMING that the State of Israel and Jewish diplomatic organisations, like the World Jewish Congress, are significant forms of Jewish representation on the international stage and sources of legitimacy for Zionism,

STRESSING that even though Zionism has succeeded in its initial goal in re-establishing the Jewish state, Zionist allies are needed to fulfill the movement’s goals in strengthening and defending the State of Israel,

ACKNOWLEDGING that Zionism encompasses more than Israel itself and extends to manifest as a bond linking the Diaspora with the Jewish people of Israel.

STRESSES that the existence of the State of Israel is not a racist endeavour, but a native title claim by a historically endangered people.

NOTES WITH GREAT CONCERN the double standards imposed on Israel, such as the disproportionate volume of resolutions, reports and conferences criticising Israel, by individuals, governments, educational institutions, and international bodies, including but not limited to the UN Human Rights Council;

ENCOURAGES the leverage of existing social media communities by identifying trusted organizations to promote a more accurate understanding and representation of the Zionist movement;
ENCOURAGES the development of practical educational tools to sensitize individuals, organizations, and policymakers to current issues concerning the state of Israel;

REJECTS the claim that Zionism is incompatible with a genuine concern for the rights and welfare of the Palestinian people;

CALLS UPON the Jewish people to maintain solidarity with the Zionist movement, in spite of critical disapproval from the prevailing dialogue and dominant discourse;

UNDERSCORES the importance of differentiating between being anti-Zionist and being critical of Israeli policies, the former being antisemitic, and the latter being acceptable, provided that Israel is not subjected to disproportional censure;

ENCOURAGES educational institutions, especially Jewish institutions, to highlight the centrality of Zionism in the collective Jewish identity and the significance of Zionism as a tool in unifying Jews around the world;

UNDERSCORES the importance of education around the history of the Zionist movement and the challenges it has faced in encouraging individuals to find solidarity therewith;

DECIDES to remain actively engaged in the matter.

Approved by the 1st WJC Jewish Youth Assembly, 27 February 2022