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Threat Assessment

Open source checks were completed on the following organizations' websites and social media accounts;

- National Students for Justice in Palestine Website - https://www.nationalsjp.org/
- National Students for Justice in Palestine Twitter - https://twitter.com/nationalsjp?lang=en
- Students for Justice in Palestine UCLA Website - http://www.sjpbruins.com/
- Students for Justice in Palestine UCLA Twitter - https://twitter.com/SJPatUCLA
- Students for Justice in Palestine UCLA Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/SJPatUCLA
- Students Supporting Israel (SSI) at UCLA Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/SSIUCLA/
- SSI National Website - http://www.ssimovement.org/
- Bruins for Israel Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/bruinsforisrael/
- Canary Mission - https://canarymission.org/
- Change.org - https://www.change.org
- Yad Yamin Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/TheYadYamin/
- Stop Antisemitism on college campuses and beyond- https://www.stopantisemitism.org/
- #UCLA Don't Host - https://mailchi.mp/e9b5df69d56f/ucla_dont_host_nsjp
- Camera on Campus - https://cameraoncampus.org/blog/anti-semitic-groups-should-not-be-given-a-platform-on-college-campuses/
- Reservists on Duty - http://onduty.org.il/about-us/

TMU also contacted past host campuses including the University of Houston (2017) and San Diego State University (2015). Both campus Police Departments stated there were no disruptions or protests during the events. CSU San Diego PD also stated they contacted Tufts University (2014 host) and there were no disruptions during that event.

TMU also contacted the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Joint Regional Intelligence Center (JRIC) and the Orange County Intelligence Assessment Center (OCIAC) for possible intelligence on the event and groups involved. TMU also requested intelligence on the speakers of the conference.

TMU also entered the event into [redacted] to receive alerts of postings regarding the event.

Due to current and historical tensions in the Middle East between Palestinians and Israelis, this NJSP event is politically charged and controversial. There is a large Jewish community on and around campus that is angered over the event. The event is garnering nationwide attention over the internet. Many pro-Israeli and Jewish groups are calling on people to put pressure on the University to cancel the event. They are encouraging people to sign petitions, call administrators, and email the Chancellor, all of which has begun occurring. Most of the groups however, are only calling for this kind of action and are not calling for protests or acts of violence. Many of the groups are not affiliated with the University or any student groups.

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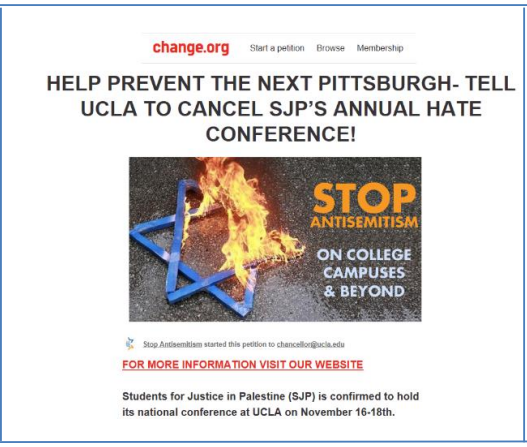
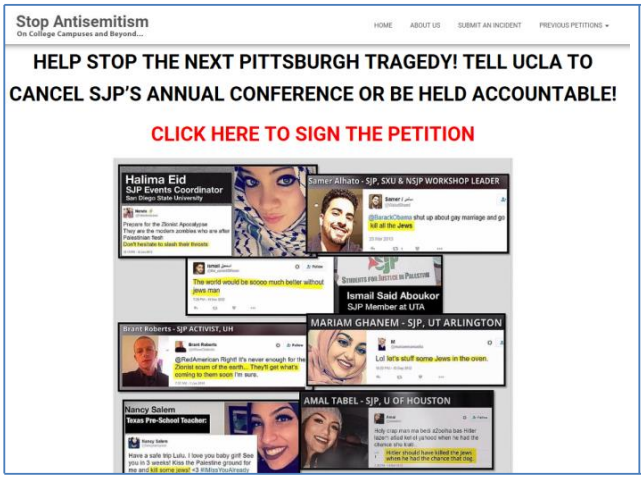
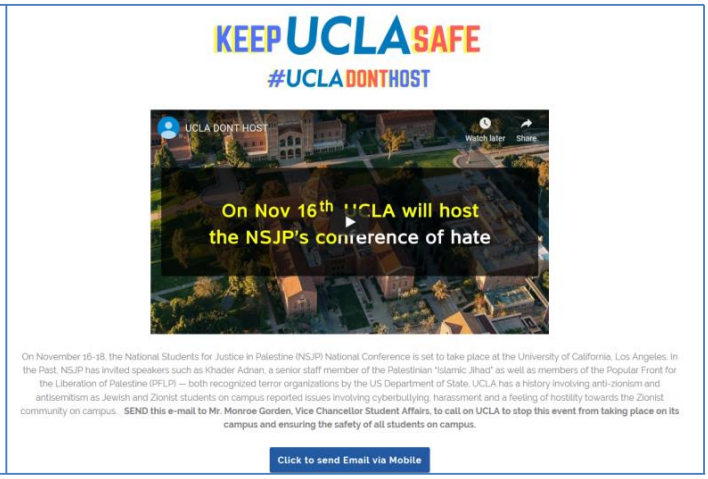
Examples of online reactions to the event







A couple of groups have indicated that they will show up to campus and physically protest the event.

- Reservists on Duty
- Yad Yamin (Right Hand)

Reservists on Duty describe themselves as a non-profit organization established in 2015 by Israeli reserve combat soldiers who felt they had a duty to expose and counter the BDS movement and new forms of anti-Semitism erupting on college campuses across America. They have contacted the University and expressed their intent to conduct a peaceful silent protest during the event. They are currently going through the proper channels and there is no indication they will protest violently.

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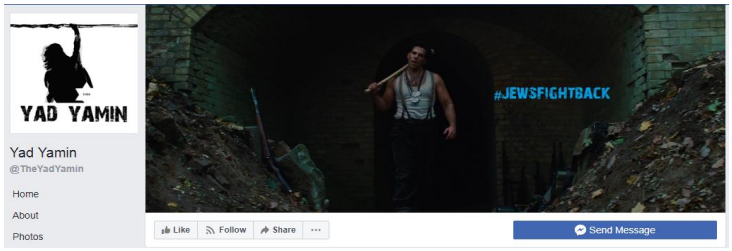
Yad Yamin describes themselves as a community organization. They are students and community members united to take the fight to those who intimidate, harass and use violence against Jews and pro-Israel advocates. Their mission is to stand up for the vulnerable Jews and pro-Israel advocates who have been the victims of repeated intimidation, hatred and violence and ensure them a safe space to express their opinions. They post violent images on their Facebook and encourage violence to stand up and protect Jewish groups.

On 11/6/18, Yad Yamin protested on campus at the Faculty Center. There were about 30 people involved. The protest started peacefully, but once the group began marching around campus, they encountered pro-Palestinian subjects. Two females engaged the group, yelling and cursing at them. Allegations of assault were made by both sides. UCPD was present and did not see witness any acts of violence and prevented further confrontations by separating the groups.

Yad Yamin has not posted anything online regarding a protest during the conference, but organizers from the 11/6/18 protest stated that was just a small turnout compared to how many will be on campus to protest during the conference.

Posts from Yad Yamin



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At this time, based on all intelligence, the potential for demonstrations and disruptions is likely to occur during the conference. Although there is a large online reaction to the event, TMU has not received any intelligence regarding mass or violent protests. The “peaceful” protest planned on the day of the event only has about 20 people confirmed to attend, however, as the event draws closer, other groups may join the Reservists on Duty to protest at the conference. Also, Yad Yamin may show up again to protest during the conference. Having a larger number of protesters on campus will increase the likelihood of encounters between the groups. If the groups do come into contact with each other, they will engage each other, increasing the likelihood of confrontations which could potentially lead to violence.

The controversy surrounding this event is continuing to grow as the event nears. Also, recent events in the Middle East are increasing tensions between pro-Palestinian and pro-Israeli/Jewish groups.

National Conference Logo

The logo for the conference is a bear flying a kite. This logo has angered many Jewish groups as it represents to them, the support of Palestinians using kites to attack Israel. The bear also represented the UCLA Bruin Bear mascot and it appeared that UCLA was supporting the conference and even sponsoring the event. This again gained nationwide attention and garnered a large online reaction.

UCLA sent a cease and desist letter to the NJSP to stop using the bear mascot on their logo. NJSP responded with a legal response stating they would not stop using the bear in their logo.

Military Actions in the Middle East

Middle East on BRINK: Israel and Palestine violence flares as raid sparks rocket attacks

VIOLENCE has erupted in Gaza after a botched cross-border commando raid by Israeli forces sparked the most intensive Palestinian shelling of Israel in years.

By SIMON OSBORNE

PUBLISHED: 08:39, Tue, Nov 13, 2018 | UPDATED: 09:37, Tue, Nov 13, 2018

Over this past weekend, news came out that Israeli Special Forces killed 6 Palestinian militants during a botched incursion into Gaza.

As a result, Palestinians retaliated by launching hundreds (possibly thousands) of rockets into Israel along with kites loaded with explosives. The Israelis countered with air strikes on Gaza. It was the heaviest round of fighting since the last conflict in 2014, pushing both sides to the brink of war. A cease fire appears to have been brokered by Egypt, however tensions still remain high.

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INTELLIGENCE REPORT

Chancellor Block's response

Los Angeles Times

The controversial Students for Justice in Palestine conference will go on at UCLA. Here's why

By GENE D. BLOCK NOV 12, 2018 | 3:05 AM

On 11/12/18, Chancellor Gene Block, wrote an opinion editorial published in the Los Angeles Times stating the NJSP conference will not be cancelled.

He acknowledged the event is controversial and that he does not agree with SJP, but the University will honor the group's first Amendment Rights.

LA City Council Resolution

JEWISH JOURNAL

L.A. City Council Approves Resolution Calling on UCLA to Cancel SJP Event

BY AARON BANDLER | NOV 6, 2018 | NATION

On 11/6/18, The Los Angeles City Council voted unanimously to call on UCLA to cancel the Conference.

The council vote for the resolution and the call to cancel the event have received a lot of media attention leading up to the conference.

Palestinian Consulate/U.S. Embassy

The Guardian

US downgrades consulate for Palestinians into Israel embassy unit

Consulate general and embassy will merge, Mike Pompeo said, but it 'does not signal a change of US policy'

▲ The entrance to the US consulate in Jerusalem on 18 October. Photograph: Thomas Coex/AFP/Getty Images

On 10/18/18, The United States government announced they would be closing the consulate in East Jerusalem and merging it with the Embassy that was recently relocated to Jerusalem. Both of these actions were considered controversial among Palestinian supporters. Violent protests erupted in May of this year when the Embassy moved from Tel-Aviv to Jerusalem, which led to death of dozens of Palestinians.

The Consulate in East Jerusalem served Palestinians and was the "de facto" Embassy to Palestinians where the Consul General was open to receiving Palestinians and hearing their concerns. With the merger, Palestinians are now left with the U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem. Palestinians are concerned that signifies a policy change for the U.S. in and de-legitimizes Palestinian sovereignty.

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The recent shooting at the Pittsburgh Synagogue and vandalism at an Orange County Synagogue have also increased the tension surrounding this event and extra patrols of local Jewish houses of worship should be conducted during the operational period of this event.

See separate TMU intelligence report for information regarding speakers, panelists and work shop leaders.

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SJP Event Speakers, Panelists and Workshop Leaders

The UCPD Threat Management Unit consulted with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Joint Regional Intelligence Center (JRIC) and the Orange County Intelligence Assessment Center (OCIAC) regarding threats related to this event and the potential links between the participants and terrorism. TMU also conducted open source checks on the speakers, panelists and workshop leaders.

TMU checked the United Nations Security Council Sanctions list to see if any speakers, panelists or workshop leaders were listed.

TMU also checked to see if any speakers, panelists or workshop leaders were listed on the U.S. Treasury Department's Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons list.

TMU also checked The State Department's designated Foreign Terrorist Organizations list to determine if SJP or any of the groups associated with the speakers, panelists and workshop leaders are designated as terrorist groups.

Students for Justice in Palestine, (SJP), Arab American Action Network (AAAN), Arab and Muslim Diasporas Studies (AMED), Al-Awda, Palestinian Youth Movement (PYM), Palestinian Solidarity Committee (PSC), Palestinian Solidarity Alliance (PSA), Palestinians and Jew Decolonize (PJD), Students United for Palestinian Equal Rights (SUPER) and Muslim Student Alliance (MSA) are *not* designated as terrorist organizations by the State Department.

There is no intelligence indicating any of the speakers are engaging in terrorist activities or providing direct support to known terrorists. There are no open investigations regarding SJP, the speakers, panelists and workshop leaders.

Keynote Speakers:

- [redacted], no open FBI investigations, *not* on Specially Designated Nationals (SDN) and Blocked Persons list, *not* on United Nations Security Council Sanctions list.
- [redacted]. Investigated by FBI (no charges, no active invest), *not* on SDN list, *not* on United Nations Security Council Sanctions list.

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Panelists:

- [redacted], no ties to terrorist organizations, *not* on SDN list, *not* on United Nations Security Council Sanctions list.
- [redacted] *not* on SDN list, *not* on United Nations Security Council Sanctions list.
- [redacted], *not* on SDN list, *not* on United Nations Security Council Sanctions list.
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- [redacted], *not* on SDN list, *not* on United Nations Security Council Sanctions list.
- [redacted]r, *not* on SDN list, *not* on United Nations Security Council Sanctions list.

Workshop leaders:

- [redacted], *not* on SDN list, *not* on United Nations Security Council Sanctions list.
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