

Tufts Hillel Israel Policy

Tufts Hillel is steadfastly committed to supporting Israel as a Jewish democratic state, a nation in the family of nations. We adopt a three prong approach in our support of Israel on campus.

- The first prong is **sending as many students to Israel as possible**, on Birthright trips with a commitment to excellent pre-and post-trip education, on study abroad programs, and on a range of travel, work and study opportunities so that students can engage with Israel's diverse population, learn its languages and cultures, and understand Israel from within.
- Our second prong is **promoting broad based educational programs** on campus that address Israeli society, arts and culture, technology, an historical understanding of Israel as the Jewish Homeland, as well as a political understanding of the conflicts in the Middle East.

We believe that **Israel draws strength from its vibrant democracy**. As part of our educational mission, we **engage in pro-Israel advocacy**. We also educate our students to combat rising anti-Semitism and anti- Israel conduct and policies, and to understand and combat dangerous connections between anti-Zionism and anti-Semitism.

We are **committed to engaging large numbers of students** in our educational lectures, workshops and peer led discussions so that they can develop a positive connection with Israel and speak knowledgeably about Israeli society, culture, history and politics. In the service of education, we will sponsor talks and engage in discussion with speakers and organizations representing a wide spectrum of views, but this does not mean that we endorse the views or policies of any particular individuals or organizations.

We strive to equip our students with the leadership and communication skills that **foster their capacity for constructive participation as active citizens**.

We welcome and partner with and aid the efforts of organizations, groups and speakers from diverse political and ideological perspectives whose Israel agenda is consistent with Hillel's mission in support of Israel as a democratic and Jewish state. Hillel is not inclined to partner with, house, or host organizations, groups or speakers that as a matter of policy or practice intend to harm Israel or Jewish communities, organizations, institutions or individuals because of their political or ideological positions, including those who:

- Deny the right of Israel to exist as a Jewish and democratic state with secure and recognized borders;
- Delegitimize, demonize, or apply a double standard to Israel;

- Support boycott of, divestment from, or sanctions against the State of Israel;
- Exhibit a pattern of disruptive behavior towards campus events or guest speakers or foster an atmosphere of incivility.
- The third prong of our Israel approach is to **engage in active dialogue** with all students and groups on our campus with the goal of building consensus concerning reducing violence, promoting mutual respect, and finding a peaceful resolution to the conflicts in the Middle East.

Approved by the Tufts Hillel Board of Directors on March 3, 2011; revised April 2013.