

## Nationwide Week of Action Calls for Academic Boycott During Israeli Apartheid Week

The [Academic Boycott Campaign Germany \(ABC DE\)](#)<sup>1</sup>, a national coalition of 43 student-, academic- and Palestine-supportive collectives, will join this year's international [Israeli Apartheid Week](#) (IAW). ABC DE will mobilize across the country from 20 to 24 April 2026 with events from Berlin to Munich, calling for an end to the occupation, apartheid, and genocide of the Palestinian people, as well as to put a halt to German complicity in those crimes.

Israeli Apartheid Week is an annual global series of events organized at universities and in cities worldwide. It was initiated 21 years ago in Toronto, Canada. That we are now able to join this initiative at German universities underscores its growing international significance - especially at a time when it is more urgent than ever to increase pressure on Israel's apartheid system.

IAW is committed to advancing boycott and divestment campaigns and to significantly escalating pressure for lawful sanctions against apartheid Israel, particularly a comprehensive military embargo and exclusion from the UN General Assembly and other international forums. At the same time, the initiative seeks to raise awareness about the situation in Palestine and to foster discussions on international law, institutional responsibility, and solidarity. This year's IAW takes place as the Knesset passes a law permitting the execution of Palestinian prisoners, described by [Amnesty International](#) as "one of the world's most extreme death penalty laws."

At the same time, Israel is intensifying regional escalation, carrying out attacks on multiple countries, violating their sovereignty, and thereby increasing the risk of a broader, potentially nuclear confrontation. Thus it is even more urgent to build a global, intersectional wave of resistance against oppression, racism, colonialism, and apartheid -not only as a moral obligation, but as an existential necessity.

In light of the latest escalation of the ongoing genocide and the further entrenchment of apartheid policies, ABC DE sees itself compelled to act. This year's Israeli Apartheid Week in Germany therefore also marks a key moment in the consolidation of ABC DE. Throughout the week, organizers are planning a combination of several core events in major cities alongside a wide range of decentralized local activities. These include lectures, panel discussions, public teach-ins, film screenings, and campus-based initiatives led by student groups and academic collectives,

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<sup>1</sup> ABC DE was launched at the Academic Boycott Now! conference in Berlin in January 2026. The campaign's demands are aligned with the guidelines of the Palestinian Campaign for the Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel (PACBI). These include the disclosure of institutional collaborations, the suspension of partnerships with institutions alleged to be involved in violations of international law, and a halt to new joint projects, including those funded through EU programs such as Horizon Europe. ([Resolution](#))

aimed at documenting and exposing institutional complicity while raising awareness of the historical and current situation in Palestine.

“Academic institutions are not neutral spaces. They are embedded in political and economic structures and must take responsibility for their collaborations,” said ABC DE’s press speaker Leon Bijan. “We are calling for transparency, the review of existing partnerships, and a clear position from German universities.”

“The week of action for IAW reflects a growing transnational movement calling on universities to critically examine their role in global political dynamics,” a spokesperson added. “For us, academic boycott is a form of institutional accountability.”

ABC DE emphasizes that this initiative is part of a broader international mobilization and seeks to contribute to ongoing debates on academic freedom, responsibility, and the role of higher education institutions in contexts of conflict and inequality.

