

<b>Subject: Requests from the Student Council and part of the faculty regarding the situation in the Gaza Strip</b>		
<b>Agenda item no.: 2.i</b>	<b>SA 31.10.2025</b>	<b>UOR: OGD</b>

The Academic Senate of SISSA

Takes note of the requests submitted by the Student Council and part of the faculty concerning the humanitarian and political situation in the Palestinian territories, and in particular in the Gaza Strip, attached to item 14 of the minutes of the Academic Senate meeting of 21 October 2025.

Recognizes the value of these initiatives, in line with the understanding that SISSA—and the university system in general—constitutes a privileged place for critical thought, which acquires particular strength within the scope of its academic competences.

Recognizes and promotes the sense of community that has always characterized the School, in a spirit of sharing, dialogue, and discussion, with respect for the many different sensibilities and for minorities.

Expresses relief and satisfaction for the openings created by the—albeit fragile—ceasefire, for the release of the hostages, and for the beginning of a peace process that may finally guarantee security, dignity, and prosperity to the populations of Gaza, the West Bank, and Israel, putting an end to the unacceptable suffering endured by the population of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, as well as by the hostages and their families, detained following the brutal terrorist attack by Hamas.

Hopes furthermore that such a process will lead to an effective and lasting peace, founded on respect for international law, on UN Resolutions 181, 194 and 242, on the protection of human rights, and on the prevention of all forms of indiscriminate violence and oppression, taking into account the legitimate aspiration of the Palestinian population to establish its own State, as well as the legitimacy of the State of Israel.

As an academic institution, SISSA reaffirms its conviction that education, knowledge, and scientific research constitute the seed of every people's future. So that this future is not compromised by the systematic destruction of educational and university structures that has occurred in the Gaza Strip, and in affirming the central role of international scientific cooperation as an instrument of peace and progress, SISSA supports any initiative aimed at rebuilding the Palestinian education and research system, also as a concrete sign of solidarity with the populations affected by the conflict.

In light of the considerations set out above, the Academic Senate of SISSA resolves as follows.

SISSA:

- commits to identifying resources to support students and visiting researchers within SISSA's programs dedicated to the protection of at-risk scientists and the promotion of international cooperation;
- commits to contributing, within its own competences and specificities, to the initiatives undertaken and supported by CRUI (Conference of Rectors of Italian Universities) and by other national and international networks, such as the IUPALS program (Italian Universities for Palestinian Students);
- commits to reviewing scientific collaborations, avoiding any form of collaboration which, upon careful examination, may contribute to the development of military technologies intended to be used as offensive tools in acts of war, or which may result in violations of human rights, in accordance with the principles enshrined in Article 11 of the Italian Constitution\* and with European initiatives for research security and for the evaluation of dual-use technologies;
- recognizes the freedom of conscience of SISSA students and scientific staff with respect to specific scientific collaborations that, for ethical reasons, are perceived as gravely contrary to their personal convictions. This freedom must be exercised with mutual respect and, in accordance with Article 3 of the Italian Constitution\*\*, without any form of direct or indirect discrimination based on gender, sexual orientation, ethnic or national origin, language, religion, political opinion, disability, or other personal or social condition.

\* Italy repudiates war as an instrument of offense against the freedom of other peoples and as a means for settling international disputes.

\*\* All citizens have equal social dignity and are equal before the law, without distinction of sex, race, language, religion, political opinion, or personal and social conditions.

AI translation