



**CHATTERBOXES ON UKRAINE  
AND SILENT ON ISRAEL:  
THE ANTISEMITIC DOUBLE  
STANDARD OF MEDICAL  
ORGANIZATIONS**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On October 7, Hamas unleashed a barbaric terrorist attack against Israel, killing more than 1,200 people, including more than 30 Americans. The event was unprecedented in its scale and cruelty in a country that is no stranger to terrorism. Still, it was not met with universal condemnation. Rather, a non-trivial number of Americans either justified or even celebrated the attacks.

Equivocation or celebration of Hamas' attack was not limited to fringe, tiki-torch wielding white nationalists. In fact, it was especially prevalent within the elite universities that popular imagination historically upholds as a bulwark against religious and ethnic bigotry, and it mostly occurred with impunity. The radicalism observed on college campuses and in other elite spaces and institutions has or at least ought to invite soul-searching and fresh deliberation about where and why Jew hatred is cultivated and sheltered.

Identity politics is undoubtedly the common denominator when assessing where Jew hatred manifests in elite spaces. The ideology backing identity politics sorts individuals into identity groups that are classified as **oppressor or oppressed**, with Jews conventionally representing the ultimate "oppressor." This ideology views under-representation as **proof of oppression**, but it also sees over-representation as evidence of being an oppressor. Because Jews have had disproportionate success, especially in fields like academia and medicine, they are assumed by this worldview to have done something wrong and deserve to have their advantages taken from them. As Do No Harm has carefully documented, medicine has eagerly adopted the same type of identity politics that have come to define the policies, sensibilities, and ideologies of Ivy League universities. Indeed, medical training and practice is fertile ground for antisemitism to flourish.

We assess antisemitism in medicine in two ways. First, we look at explicit acts of antisemitism from healthcare providers in the wake of the October 7th attack. We observe that doctors are among those who have engaged in some of the most egregious displays of antisemitism, and that they are not regularly punished for their conduct. Second, we examine the responses of professional medical associations and medical schools to Hamas' attack against Israel compared to their response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Overall, we observe that medical schools and medical associations are far more likely to provide comment on the Russian invasion of Ukraine, and that statements about Ukraine express greater solidarity and unequivocal support. Leading medical institutions treat the world's only Jewish state differently from other U.S. allies even though Americans overall have warmer feelings toward Israel than Ukraine.

If we want to understand why medical professionals are drawn to acts of antisemitism despite their advanced levels of education, we need to look at what their medical associations and schools are teaching them. Those institutions not only advance an ideology that facilitates Jew hatred, they demonstrate by the example of their public statements that they hold Jews and the Jewish state to a different standard.

## ANTISEMITIC INCIDENTS IN MEDICINE

Statements on Hamas' terrorist attack on Israel provided by ideologues like Harvard President **Claudine Gay**, Congresswoman **Rashida Tlaib**, and actress **Angelina Jolie** are reprehensible, but at least somewhat predictable in the context of their social station. These high-profile individuals would be expected to say something about what transpired in Israel. That they played the role that was expected of them is just as much an indictment of the ideology to which they ascribe, and its coddling in polite society, as it is of their personal convictions.

Medical practitioners, however, are under no expectation or obligation to sound off on foreign conflicts. Common sense might even caution against making public statements. **After all, relationships between healthcare providers and their patients should transcend politics in the interest of maximizing trust between patient and provider.** A healthcare provider's comment on the conflict between Hamas and Israel isn't interpreted as signaling virtue (or lack thereof) or reading from an expected script, but an earnest expression of beliefs and convictions.

*The fact that so many would feel the urge and freedom to engage in overt Jew hatred despite their advanced professional training is alarming.*

Assuredly, the great majority of medical practitioners have made no public statements or made benign remarks that did not warrant news coverage. Still, it's clear that medicine is not immune from the scourge of antisemitism that has engulfed the country in recent weeks. Stop Antisemitism, an organization that calls attention to public displays of antisemitism, has recorded many medical practitioners whose speech or conduct related to recent events clearly demonstrate Jew hatred. The fact that many of those health professionals were subsequently disciplined by their employers is reassuring. But the fact that so many would feel the urge and freedom to engage in overt Jew hatred despite their advanced professional training is alarming.

Several doctors publicly celebrated the savagery that Hamas inflicted upon Israel, which featured barbarism that rivals some of the darkest episodes of human history. Dr. **Shiraz Farooq** took to social media to post a Palestinian flag with the caption "about time!!!" Stop Antisemitism did not provide any information on his employment status, but as of November 9th it appears he is still leading the Colowell proctology clinic in Tampa, Florida. Dr. **Majd Aburabia**, the medical director of a cancer center in Dearborn, Michigan, posted on social media: "What a beautiful morning. What a beautiful day," referencing the musical "Oklahoma!" to express joy about the Hamas assault. An update posted by Stop Antisemitism claims that her employment at Beaumont Hospital was terminated, but as of November 9th she is still listed as an employee on the **hospital's website**. Dr. **Abeer AbouYabis**, a physician at the Emory Winship Cancer Institute, similarly took to social media to celebrate Hamas' attack,

writing “They got walls we got gliders glory to all resistance fighters.” An October 17th update states that she has been put on leave while the Winship Institute investigates. Dr. **Dana Diab** commented on Instagram that “Zionist settlers” got “a taste of their own medicine.” She was promptly fired from her ER physician job at Lenox Hill. **Raeda Saeed**, a registered nurse in the Chicago area, sent a direct message expressing her desire that a Chicago-area mother and daughter who were kidnapped be “burned alive and fed to Israel dogs.” It’s unclear if she has faced any professional consequences. A nurse practitioner, **Sabreen Sarsour**, claims that allegations of Hamas raping Israeli women are “propaganda,” since “Ain’t no Muslim Palestinian resistant fighter touching your women.” She is still listed as an employee of the Muslim Community and Health Center of Wisconsin as of November 9th. **Zaki Massoud**, a medical resident at NYU Langone Winthrop hospital, commented on Instagram, “Let them call it terrorism. Extremism. Barbarianism. We call it liberation. Decolonization. Resistance. Revolution.” He was relieved of his position.

*A nurse practitioner claims that allegations of Hamas raping Israeli women are “propaganda,” since “Ain’t no Muslim Palestinian resistant fighter touching your women.”*

Other doctors made grotesque remarks in characterizing Israel’s military response to the massacre that Hamas perpetrated. **Andrew Thierry**, a diagnostic radiologist in Beverly Hills, California commented on Twitter that “Zionists are genocidal, demonic, greedy pedophilic retards,” and that the “war pigs are mad that their lies and deceit aren’t working anymore.” He was promptly fired as chief medical officer at ExpertMRI. **Alaa Ramadan**, a Houston-based pediatrician, posted an Instagram image claiming that the “only” difference between children murdered in Israel as part of Hamas’ **genocidal campaign** and Palestinian children killed during Israel’s war to eradicate Hamas is that “you won’t find Youtube ads for the death of these (Palestinian) children ... Because they have no hidden agenda or propaganda to spread- just raw images.” Her employer, Pediatrix, sheepishly commented that “we find all forms of racism and antisemitism abhorrent. Individuals commenting on their personal social media pages do not represent an official statement on behalf of the company. We will not be commenting further on this matter.”

In other cases, healthcare providers landed in hot water not for their own speech but for attempting to stifle the speech of others. **Ahmed ElKoussa**, a Miami-based dentist, was filmed ripping down posters calling attention to the plight of the more than 200 Israeli civilians who were kidnapped by Hamas. The dental clinic where Dr. ElKoussa was employed quickly clarified that they do not “support terrorist groups, actions, or supporters,” and fired Dr. ElKoussa as a result. **Zena Al-Adeeb**, A Boston-based endodontist, was also filmed ripping down posters of Israeli civilians. Her employment was also terminated. Dr. **Mohammed Alghamdi**, a physician and professor at the University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine, also ripped down posters of kidnapped Israelis. As of November 9th he is still listed as an employee of the school.

Many health professionals were eager to endorse hateful messages crafted by others. More than 3,000 healthcare providers worldwide (including hundreds from the United States) signed an **open letter** for publication in the medical journal, *The Lancet*, making numerous demands of the Israeli government but **none of Hamas**. Worse, it originally demanded the release of Israeli hostages in Gaza but explicitly stated that this demand was removed after internal deliberation. The doctors who signed the letter apparently do not see the release of hostages as a priority the way that they see an “immediate ceasefire” with Hamas butchers as a moral imperative.

## RESPONSES TO HAMAS’ ATTACK COMPARED TO RUSSIAN INVASION OF UKRAINE

### METHOD

To identify professional medical associations, we began with the American Medical Association (AMA) and the set of “**national medical specialty societies**” that are affiliated with it. We then narrowed that list to focus on the 42 organizations affiliated with the AMA that are also in the list of medical associations compiled by the continuing education provider, **Meditec**.

Some medical specialty societies are essentially promoters of their services to prospective patients/customers rather than active associations of medical professionals designed to educate and speak on behalf of their members. Societies that focus on connecting patients to providers would be unlikely to take organizational stances on issues since their main purpose is commercial, not professional. But medical associations that also provide significant continuing education to their members, like those included in the Meditec list, would have more of a professional orientation and might be more likely to take public positions on issues, which is why we concentrate on them.

**We also examined a set of 152 medical schools in the United States as identified by Wikipedia.** This list includes all MD granting institutions in the 50 states and Washington, D.C.

*The terms for which we searched were “Ukraine,” “Israel,” “Hamas,” “Gaza,” and “Palestine.”*

We searched for all statements or official news items released by these medical associations and colleges that addressed the conflicts involving Ukraine, as well as Israel. These organizations typically have websites with an internal search function. The terms for which we searched were “Ukraine,” “Israel,” “Hamas,” “Gaza,” and “Palestine.” If an internal search function was not available, we conducted a Google search for those terms, along with the name of the organization.

## RESULTS: MEDICAL ASSOCIATIONS

Among the 42 medical associations, 31 (74%) had an official communication regarding Ukraine, but only 11 (26%) had done so with respect to Israel. **Medical associations were almost three times more likely to issue statements with respect to the conflict in Ukraine than to the one in Israel.**

The **American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM)** also took an unequivocal stand on the situation in Ukraine: “The shock of violence perpetuated [sic] against innocent, peaceful individuals, who have been forced to flee and fight while experiencing the immense terror of having their nation invaded and their homes and cities attacked, has been harrowing to witness. AACOM honors the courage and character of the Ukrainian people, their bravery in the face of such suffering and the spiritual strength they are demonstrating by protecting their land and populace.” The AACOM appears to have nothing to say about the shock of violence perpetrated against innocent and peaceful Israelis who were forced to flee and fight, and whose homes and cities were attacked, nor does the AACOM offer similar praise to the Israeli people for their courage, character, and bravery in the face of such suffering, or the spiritual strength they demonstrate by protecting their land and populace.

*Apparently, Israeli steadfastness is not remarkable and humbling, and Jews are not in the ACPM’s thoughts and prayers.*

The **American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA)** joined with the European Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care (ESAIC) to declare that they were “united in our condemnation of the attacks on the people of Ukraine.” They had no condemnation to offer of the attacks on the Israeli people.

The **American College of Preventive Medicine (ACPM)** stated: “The resilience of the Ukrainian people and the steadfastness of their leader are remarkable and humbling. To those of you who are of Ukrainian descent with family, history and loved ones in the country or fleeing for their lives, please know you are in our thoughts and prayers.” Apparently, Israeli steadfastness is not remarkable and humbling, and Jews are not in the ACPM’s thoughts and prayers.

**Some of the 11 medical associations that had official communications about both Ukraine and Israel treated the two conflicts similarly.** For example, the American Academy of Dermatology **responded to the conflict in Ukraine** by stating, “The American Academy of Dermatology stands in solidarity with our Ukrainian members and their patients during this time of crisis. We condemn the Russian assault on Ukraine’s sovereign territory, and we support freedom in all its forms.” Their **response to the conflict in Israel**: “The American Academy of Dermatology stands strongly in support of our members and their patients in the state of Israel and in the Israel Dermatology Society. There can be no justification for the torturing, kidnapping,

and murdering of innocent civilians. We pray for the swift return of peace and the opportunity for all our members in the region to live in safety and prosperity.”

Similarly, the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging issued consistent statements concerning both conflicts. **On Ukraine they state**, “The Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging (SNMMI) deplores the recent invasion of Ukraine that has resulted in the death and injury of a large number of innocent men, women, and children—a horrifying contrast to our work to save lives and improve patient care ... Our thoughts are with all those affected by this crisis in the Ukraine and around the world.” **On Israel they say**, “The Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging (SNMMI) strongly condemns the recent terrorism in Israel and war in Gaza. The death, injury, and capture of innocent men, women, and children and the suffering of populations is a horrifying contrast to our work to save lives and improve patient care ... Our thoughts are with all those affected by this crisis. Our hope is for a future of peace.”

*That text can be found reproduced on the website of a local chapter, but that statement has been taken down by the national organization and the URL currently states “page not found.”*

**Some medical associations, however, retracted strong statements with respect to Israel and replaced them with more tepid responses that were also quite different from how those organizations responded to the situation in Ukraine.** For example, the American Osteopathic Association initially issued a statement with respect to Israel, saying: “The American Osteopathic Association (AOA) vehemently denounces the recent terrorist attacks on the people of Israel. We are profoundly saddened and outraged at the barbaric atrocities committed, and we firmly stand with all who are impacted by this terrible crisis.”

That text can be found reproduced **on the website of a local chapter**, but that statement has been taken down by the national organization and the URL currently states “**page not found.**” The only statement that can **now be found on the AOA** website is very different from the removed one: “The American Osteopathic Association (AOA) maintains its outrage at the atrocities committed in the Israeli – Palestinian conflict. I continue to be personally appalled at the violence affecting so many innocent people.”

Similarly, the American Thoracic Society (ATS) modified their initial statement with respect to the conflict in Israel. Their original statement is no longer available, but **the modified statement** clearly expresses a desire to be perceived as more neutral: “We previously shared a statement expressing our profound sadness and distress by the events in the Middle East and condemning all actions that lead to the suffering of others. Some may have read this statement and concluded we are taking a stand for or against one group, while others may say we did not take a strong enough stand for



or against another. We did not intend to marginalize any group or cause further pain. This is not a political statement. This is a humanitarian statement.”

In **its statement regarding Ukraine**, which the American Thoracic Society (ATS) joined with the Forum of International Respiratory Societies (FIRS) to issue, they felt no need to emphasize their non-political stance. Without qualification they said that their organization “stands in solidarity with the people of Ukraine as the unfolding humanitarian disaster created by Russia’s invasion continues. We are deeply concerned about the impact on the health and wellbeing of communities in Ukraine and pledge our strong support to frontline workers, affected members, partner organisations and the 1.7 million people who have had to flee their homes.”

*Their original statement is no longer available, but the modified statement clearly expresses a desire to be perceived as more neutral.*

**Several of the 11 medical associations that issued statements on both Ukraine and Israel had noticeable differences between how they responded to these two events.**

For example, The American Medical Association issued a statement about the war in Ukraine that includes this quotation from AMA President Gerald E. Harmon, MD: “The AMA is outraged by the senseless injury and death the Russian army has inflicted on the Ukraine people. For those who survive these unprovoked attacks, the physical, emotional and psychological health of Ukrainians will be felt for years.”

The AMA neither expressed outrage over the Hamas slaughter of Israeli civilians nor characterized the attack as unprovoked. Instead, the AMA reported that they had “heard from many of our physician and medical student members expressing heartbreak and outrage about the human toll afflicting Israelis, Palestinians and others.” The statement then reiterated AMA policies to: “ (1) implore all parties at all times to understand and minimize the health costs of war on civilian populations generally and the adverse effects of physician persecution in particular, (2) support the efforts of physicians around the world to practice medicine ethically in any and all circumstances, including during wartime, episodes of civil strife, or sanctions and condemn the military targeting of health care facilities and personnel and using denial of medical services as a weapon of war, by any party, wherever and whenever it occurs, and (3) advocate for the protection of physicians’ rights to provide ethical care without fear of persecution.”

The AMA statement in response to the invasion of Ukraine clearly expressed criticism of Russia. The only clear criticism expressed in the AMA statement following the October 7 Hamas attack was toward any actions that might interfere with medical care, which would mostly be directed at Israel’s efforts to eliminate Hamas’ control of Gaza.

The American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) emphasized that Israel needed to protect civilian lives, but expressed no similar reminder to Ukrainian forces.

The AANS statement on Ukraine **only declared support for Ukraine** in its efforts against Russian aggression: “As a medical association committed to advancing the health, safety, and well-being of individuals around the world, we wish to express at this critical, historic juncture our profound solidarity with the citizens of Ukraine, including our Ukrainian neurosurgeon colleagues, as they valiantly seek, with international assistance, to defend their liberty, security and ancient, sacred cultural values against the current invasion by Russian military forces.”

*While the application of double standards against Israel among the 11 medical associations that issued statements on both Ukraine and Israel is troubling, the much more problematic pattern is the complete silence of most medical associations on the situation in Israel.*

**In its statement on Israel**, however, the AANS felt it necessary to note that any military response to attacks had to “abide by international standards of moral conduct” and protect civilians: “As neurosurgical professional organizations, we are shocked and saddened by the events occurring in Israel and the Gaza Strip, resulting in the loss of innocent lives and widespread fear and suffering. We strongly condemn this terrorist attack on Israeli civilians and the horrific systematic and intentional targeting of innocent civilians – particularly women, children and infants – by Hamas. While decrying the unspeakable atrocities committed by that organization, we simultaneously and fervently maintain that any governmental response to that savage, unprovoked attack must abide by international standards of moral conduct, particularly protecting, wherever and whenever possible, civilian lives.” It is unclear why AANS thinks that its statement on Israel requires this caveat while its statement on Ukraine does not.

While the application of double standards against Israel among the 11 medical associations that issued statements on both Ukraine and Israel is troubling, the much more problematic pattern is the complete silence of most medical associations on the situation in Israel. **Almost three-quarters of medical associations felt the need to speak out on the war in Ukraine but almost three-quarters have nothing to say about the war in Israel.** The stark contrast in their response is alarming.

## RESULTS: MEDICAL SCHOOLS

Fewer medical schools generally issue official communications on public issues than do medical associations. Of the 152 medical schools we examined, 69 (45%) have a statement or article with editorial content regarding the conflict in Ukraine on their website. Only 4 (3%) of those medical schools have posted something with respect to the conflict in Israel.

The **University of Maryland’s medical school** responded to events in Ukraine by saying, “Throughout the last week as the world has witnessed terrible and unprovoked violence against the people of Ukraine, we are reminded that the mission of the

University of Maryland Medical System to support the health and well-being of others extends beyond our state to all of those in need across the globe.” That mission does not appear to extend to Israel or American Jews connected to Israel.

The **Medical University of South Carolina** expressed sympathy for their affiliates with personal connections to Ukraine: “We recognize that there are members of our MUSC family who are natives of Ukraine and have family and friends there and many others with friends and connections to Ukraine who are now suffering as a result of the invasion. Our hearts and minds are with them as they process these life-changing current events, and we encourage each of you to offer these team members your support and compassion during this difficult time.” The statement then connects Ukraine to democracy and U.S.

values: “As Americans, we know well that democracy, and freedom itself, is fragile and must be supported and protected. As an institution, we stand united with the U.S. government and our fellow humans around the world in protest and resistance to this unprovoked attack on Ukraine.” Israel’s democracy and how it has been threatened by an unprovoked attack or how members of the “MUSC family” with connections to Israel who may be suffering are not worthy of their comment.

The **University at Buffalo** medical school similarly took a stand with Ukraine and expressed support for those connected to Ukraine: “We in the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences stand with the University at Buffalo community in condemning Russia’s invasion of Ukraine. We are in solidarity with the people of Ukraine, Ukrainian-Americans in Western New York, across our nation, and around the world. ... Our Ukrainian families, friends, neighbors, and citizens everywhere need and deserve our support. I know you will join me in providing the aid and comfort they need, to the best of your ability.” That medical school apparently does not stand with Israel or feel the need to support those connected to Israel.

In some cases, departments or centers within medical schools have issued statements with respect to Ukraine but not Israel. For example, members of the **Department of Neurobiology at UCLA** declared that they “stand in resolute solidarity with our Ukrainian colleagues and the Ukrainian people, who are heroically resisting the Russian Federation’s premeditated and unprovoked military invasion of Ukraine. We condemn, in the strongest terms, the shocking and senseless brutality of the Russian military towards the Ukrainian people, which has resulted in the deaths of thousands of Ukrainian civilians, and the latest attempted destruction of Ukraine.” According to that department, the Israeli people must not be heroically responding to a premeditated and unprovoked military invasion by Hamas because they have not issued a similar statement with regard to recent events.

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**Instead of issuing statements, quite often medical schools post news articles with editorial content or that describe humanitarian relief efforts.** For example, the **Boston University School of Medicine** posted an article in which “BUSM community members share perspectives” about the war in Ukraine. It began, “The news that Russian tanks, troops and aircraft had crossed into Ukraine last Thursday did not surprise those in the School of Medicine with ties to one or both countries. It did provoke anger about what they saw as a senseless war as well as concern for the family and colleagues they knew on both sides of the border.” One professor’s comment was fairly representative of the perspectives shared in that article: “I always thought he (Russian President Vladimir Putin) was an SOB right from the beginning. It (the invasion) surprised me only because it seems like a suicidal move on his part.” The Boston University School of Medicine has not similarly shared perspectives with respect to the war in Israel.

The **University of Pennsylvania** medical school created a website to list its initiatives to help Ukraine. **The Johns Hopkins** medical school profiled a professor who was raising funds to assist Ukraine. **Harvard** medical school had a piece featuring an alumnus who was working on the front lines in Ukraine. And **Tufts** medical school interviewed one of their professors about the public health challenges created by Russia’s invasion of Ukraine.

**All of these articles were meant to elicit support for Ukraine. None of these medical schools have posted similar articles to elicit support for Israel.**

*Two of the three medical schools that issued statements on both Ukraine and Israel responded very differently to the those events.*

One of the four medical schools that issued statements about Israel did not similarly do so in response to the war in Ukraine. The **University of South Florida** medical school offered a strong statement, declaring that they “stand with the people of Israel and mourn the victims of this despicable depravity.” It is unclear why that medical school did not also take a stand on the war in Ukraine.

Two of the three medical schools that issued statements on both Ukraine and Israel responded very differently to the those events. The Michigan State medical school’s dean **devoted an entire message to the conflict in Ukraine.** In it, he noted that he had “received touching and heartfelt notes in support of the people of Ukraine” and emphasized that “this is a very difficult time for our people with connections to Ukraine and the surrounding region.” He also offered details on how people could coordinate “getting supplies to Ukraine.”

The same dean’s **response to the war in Israel** was confined to a few sentences at the bottom of a message about other matters and did not even mention Israel by name. He said: “This has been another week of violence threatening our friends and loved ones. We have students, faculty, and staff from around the world, including countries and

regions at war with each other. My main local concern is that we are thoughtful with and good to each other. There is no escaping the raw brutality and terror of children and civilians massacred. To be targeted and traumatized is an excruciating experience, known to both sides in most wars, and usually leading to more violence. Presumably, we will see more violence in the Middle East. I feel a kinship with my colleagues anywhere who care for the sick and injured in hospitals without power or supplies. Here, we will need to give each other space and kindness.” He then switched the topic to other conflicts that he does list by name: “We have confirmed the safety of faculty (Dr. Hend) and students in Jordan doing crucial work to care for Syrian civil war refugees, whose suffering continues. The war in Ukraine continues. The war in Yemen continues. There was a shooting on the Morgan State University campus last week. There is much to do.”

Yale University’s medical school **responded to the war in Ukraine** by profiling an organization created by a number of its faculty, called Doctors United for Ukraine. The article describes how that organization has been successful at raising money and delivering medical assistance in Ukraine. As one of the medical professors put it, “The goal is ever-evolving. But the overall mission is to support the people of Ukraine.”

Unlike its response to the war in Ukraine, the Yale medical school **statement on the war in Israel** takes no stand about who is particularly deserving of fundraising and support. It noticeably uses the passive voice to describe events: “Two weeks have elapsed since violence erupted in Israel and Gaza, and with each passing day, the mayhem grows.” The statement clearly expresses compassion but goes out of its way to provide compassion for all: “Like many of you, I’ve spent hours gazing at pictures of Israeli children, murdered or kidnapped, and pictures of Palestinian children, lying on stretchers or climbing through rubble. Yet, few discuss the conflict out loud. In quiet corners, we whisper our concerns. We ask Jewish and Muslim friends if they have loved ones they’re worried about, and, it turns out, many do. As physicians, we uphold the lives of all people, without exception. In our clinics and hospitals we care for refugees fleeing war zones, torture victims seeking asylum, and veterans who can’t escape their trauma. We don’t call people good or bad, and we don’t label patients deserving or not. We open our doors and hearts to all.”

**The most striking thing about the response of medical schools to the wars in Ukraine and Israel is how nearly half have something to say about Ukraine while almost none say anything about Israel.**

*“We don’t call people good or bad, and we don’t label patients deserving or not. We open our doors and hearts to all.”*

## COMBINED AND TIME-ADJUSTED RESULTS

If we combined the 42 medical associations and 152 medical schools, we find that 100 out of 194 of them posted responses to the conflict in Ukraine, while 15 of those 194 issued statements regarding the war in Israel. That is, over half of these medical organizations felt it necessary to speak to the Ukraine crisis while only 8% felt the need to do so with respect to Israel. **Put in another way, medical associations and schools are almost 7 times more likely to address the war in Ukraine than in Israel.**

Because the war in Israel is newer, it is possible that medical associations and schools have simply had more time to formulate responses to the situation in Ukraine. We started our data collection on statements about Israel on October 24, which is 17 days after the Hamas attack. Even if we limited our analysis to the statements on Ukraine that had been released within 17 days of the Russian invasion, medical organizations would still be more than twice as likely to have spoken on the Ukraine conflict than on the one in Israel. And since data collected extended through November 1, if we limited our comparison to statements about Ukraine that had been released within the same number of days, we would still find that medical associations are almost four times as likely to have addressed the situation in Ukraine as the one in Israel. In short, most statements are released shortly after events occur and the differential response by medical organizations to the war in Israel cannot be explained by their lack of time to formulate a statement.

*However, by just about any measure, Americans have equal or greater affinity for Israel, more enthusiasm for its war effort, and greater appetite for the United States to provide material support.*

## PUBLIC OPINION

One potential explanation for the medical community's vastly different response to Hamas' terrorist attack on Israel compared to the Russian invasion of Ukraine is that they were simply following public opinion. If, for example, Americans were more supportive of Ukraine's war effort than Israel's war effort, then differences in how and whether the medical community addressed each issue wouldn't necessarily be cause for concern. However, by just about any measure, Americans have equal or greater affinity for Israel, more enthusiasm for its war effort, and greater appetite for the United States to provide material support. For example, a **USA Today** survey found that 58 percent of Americans favor sending additional military aid to Israel compared to 51 percent who favor additional aid for Ukraine. A **Quinnipiac survey** meanwhile found that 76 percent of voters think that supporting Israel is in the national interest of the United States compared to 65 percent of voters who feel the same way about Ukraine. A **CNBC survey** found that 74 percent responded that it's "important" for the U.S. to fund military aid to Israel, a number that beats out not only military aid for Ukraine (61

percent) but every other geopolitical position surveyed, including funding for border security, humanitarian aid, and military aid for Taiwan. **Clearly, the responses (or lack thereof) from the medical community to Hamas' terrorist attack against Israel compared to the Russian invasion of Ukraine diverge widely from public opinion.**

*The unbridled adoption of extreme progressive political orthodoxy (and particularly identity politics) raises the specter that a field entrusted with healing is instead becoming a vehicle for hatred.*

## CONCLUSION

Many Americans spoke of Hamas' attack on Israel as being a clarifying moment. The responses of students and faculty of elite universities laid bare the extent to which these institutions have become safe harbors for antisemitism. Medicine is not immune and may even be particularly prone to depraved ideologies. The unbridled adoption of extreme progressive political orthodoxy (and particularly identity politics) raises the specter that a field entrusted with healing is instead becoming a vehicle for hatred.

The open letter published in *The Lancet*, which purposefully neglects to demand the release of Israeli hostages, demonstrates that many healthcare providers are willing to endorse radical statements with unusually callous disregard for civilian suffering, so long as those civilians are part of the political outgroup. Some healthcare providers have taken to social media or public protests to express their own abhorrent convictions. Disturbingly, they are not regularly punished. Some medical institutions are willing to abide antisemitism and explicit endorsements or celebrations of terrorism committed against Israel.

The degree to which the responses of medical schools and medical associations varied when it comes to the invasion of Ukraine compared to Hamas' attack on Israel is another foreboding sign. These institutions are under no expectation to say anything about foreign conflicts. That they are less willing to signal support of Israel than Ukraine indicates that the leaders of those institutions have opinions that diverge sharply from American public opinion or anticipate that members of the organization have unusually chilly feelings about Israel.

*To combat antisemitism among medical professionals we need to combat the spread of this worldview within medical organizations.*

While our observations are disconcerting, they should not cause despair. Americans of conscience are not powerless to fight back. First, people can and should vote with their feet and wallets. It would be advisable to avoid those hospitals or clinics that don't act upon expressions of hatred from their own employees. Similarly, it would be advisable to avoid enrollment in medical schools that abide or cultivate extremism. Searching for schools in states that have abolished diversity, equity, and inclusion in higher education would be a sensible place to start (i.e., Florida and Texas). Comparing the responses of medical

schools to Hamas' attack on Israel to their response to the invasion of Ukraine would also be sensible (i.e., willingness to comment on the latter but not the former is a troubling omen).

**The root of the problem is a worldview spreading through respectable institutions, including medical associations and colleges, that people should be treated differently based on group identities.** The traditional American aspiration that all



individuals be treated equally under the law is being replaced with the notion that people in what are deemed to be oppressed groups deserve restitution for collective and historic wrongs, while those in groups classified as oppressors deserve to have their advantages stripped away. **Once we come to believe that people should be treated according to their group identity rather than individual merits and that some groups deserve better treatment than others, there is no limit to the bigotry and hatred that could follow.** The only controlling principle would be the extent to which we believe some groups have collectively and historically wronged other groups, not any quality of the individual.

It may seem odd that Jews, a group that has historically experienced great suffering, could so readily be cast as the oppressors. But since collective success or failure as measured by over-representation or under-representation adjudicate each group's victim status, the triumph of Jews over the hardships they have endured is precisely why they can be classified as among the oppressors. Their sin is surviving and thriving.

When this worldview is combined with the particular success of Jews in health professions, it should not be surprising to find serious antisemitism in medical organizations. The problem is exacerbated by the fact that Jews have disproportionately held high positions in these organizations. Those seeking to displace them and grab those positions for themselves would be particularly drawn to ideologies that claimed over-representation was evidence of wrong-doing.

To combat antisemitism among medical professionals we need to combat the spread of this worldview within medical organizations. We need to create legal and cultural norms within health professions that forbid treating people differently based on their racial, ethnic, or sexual identities. People need to be treated as individuals, not as members of groups.

We also need to abolish the bureaucracies that have been created within many medical organizations that promote identity politics. In particular, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) officials have essentially served as a political commissariat, articulating and enforcing an identity politics orthodoxy. Recent events should galvanize legislative efforts toward dismantling DEI in higher education so that identity politics can no longer be enforced and propagated through administrative offices within the university. The stakes and urgency for dismantling the DEI regime and its attendant ideology could not be clearer.

*We need to create legal and cultural norms within health professions that forbid treating people differently based on their racial, ethnic, or sexual identities.*

# APPENDIX A: MEDICAL SCHOOLS

Medical School	Ukraine	Israel
University of Alabama at Birmingham Heersink School of Medicine	Yes	No
University of South Alabama Frederick P. Whiddon College of Medicine	Yes	No
University of Arizona College of Medicine – Tucson	No	No
University of Arizona College of Medicine – Phoenix	No	No
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences College of Medicine	Yes	No
California Northstate University College of Medicine	No	No
California University of Science and Medicine	No	No
Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science College of Medicine	No	No
Kaiser Permanente Bernard J. Tyson School of Medicine	No	No
University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine	Yes	No
Loma Linda University School of Medicine	No	No
Stanford University School of Medicine	Yes	No
University of California, Davis School of Medicine	Yes	No
University of California, Irvine School of Medicine	No	No
University of California, Riverside School of Medicine	No	No
University of California, San Diego School of Medicine	No	No
University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine	Yes	No
University of California, Los Angeles David Geffen School of Medicine	Yes	No
University of Colorado School of Medicine	Yes	No
University of Connecticut School of Medicine	Yes	No
Quinnipiac University Frank H. Netter MD School of Medicine	No	No
Yale School of Medicine	Yes	Yes
George Washington University School of Medicine & Health Sciences	No	No
Georgetown University School of Medicine	Yes	No
Howard University College of Medicine	No	No
Florida International University Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine	No	No
University of Florida College of Medicine	Yes	No
Florida Atlantic University Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine	No	No
Florida State University College of Medicine	Yes	No
University of Miami Miller School of Medicine	Yes	No
Nova Southeastern University Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Allopathic Medicine	Yes	No
University of Central Florida College of Medicine	No	No
University of South Florida Morsani College of Medicine	No	Yes
Emory University School of Medicine	No	No
Augusta University Medical College of Georgia	No	No
Mercer University School of Medicine	No	No
Morehouse School of Medicine	No	No
University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa John A. Burns School of Medicine	Yes	No

Medical School	Ukraine	Israel
Carle Illinois College of Medicine	Yes	No
Rosalind Franklin University Chicago Medical School	No	No
University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine	No	No
University of Illinois College of Medicine	Yes	No
Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine	Yes	No
Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine	Yes	No
Rush Medical College	Yes	No
Southern Illinois University School of Medicine	No	No
Indiana University School of Medicine	No	No
University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine	No	No
University of Kansas School of Medicine	Yes	No
University of Kentucky College of Medicine	No	No
University of Louisville School of Medicine	No	No
LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans School of Medicine	Yes	No
LSU Health Sciences Center Shreveport School of Medicine	No	No
Tulane University School of Medicine	Yes	No
Johns Hopkins School of Medicine	Yes	No
University of Maryland School of Medicine	Yes	No
Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine	No	No
Boston University Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine	Yes	No
Harvard Medical School	Yes	No
University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School	Yes	No
Tufts University School of Medicine	Yes	No
Central Michigan University College of Medicine	No	No
University of Michigan Medical School	Yes	No
Michigan State University College of Human Medicine	Yes	Yes
Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine	Yes	No
Wayne State University School of Medicine	Yes	No
Western Michigan University Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine	No	No
Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine	No	No
University of Minnesota Medical School	Yes	No
University of Missouri School of Medicine	No	No
University of Missouri–Kansas City School of Medicine	No	No
Saint Louis University School of Medicine	No	No
Washington University School of Medicine	No	No
University of Mississippi School of Medicine	No	No
Creighton University School of Medicine	No	No
University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Medicine	Yes	No
University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine	No	No

Medical School	Ukraine	Israel
University of Nevada, Las Vegas Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine	Yes	No
Dartmouth University Geisel School of Medicine	Yes	No
Rowan University Cooper Medical School	No	No
Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine	No	No
Rutgers Medical School	Yes	Yes
University of New Mexico School of Medicine	Yes	No
Albany Medical College	Yes	No
University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	Yes	No
City University of New York School of Medicine	No	No
Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons	No	No
Weill Cornell Medical College	No	No
Albert Einstein College of Medicine	Yes	No
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai	No	No
New York University Long Island School of Medicine	Yes	No
New York University Grossman School of Medicine	Yes	No
New York Medical College	Yes	No
Stony Brook University Renaissance School of Medicine	Yes	No
University of Rochester School of Medicine & Dentistry	Yes	No
State University of New York Downstate Health Sciences University College of Medicine	Yes	No
State University of New York Upstate Medical University Norton College of Medicine	Yes	No
Donald and Barbara Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell	No	No
Duke University School of Medicine	Yes	No
East Carolina University Brody School of Medicine	No	No
University of North Carolina School of Medicine	No	No
Wake Forest School of Medicine	Yes	No
University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences	No	No
Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine	No	No
University of Cincinnati College of Medicine	No	No
Northeast Ohio Medical University	Yes	No
Ohio State University College of Medicine	No	No
University of Toledo College of Medicine and Life Sciences	No	No
Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine	No	No
University of Oklahoma College of Medicine	Yes	No
Oregon Health & Science University	No	No
Drexel University College of Medicine	No	No
Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine	No	No
Thomas Jefferson University Sidney Kimmel Medical College	Yes	No
Penn State University College of Medicine	No	No

Medical School	Ukraine	Israel
University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine	Yes	No
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine	No	No
Temple University Lewis Katz School of Medicine	No	No
Brown University Alpert Medical School	Yes	No
Medical University of South Carolina	Yes	No
University of South Carolina School of Medicine Columbia	No	No
University of South Carolina School of Medicine Greenville	No	No
University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine	No	No
East Tennessee State University James H. Quillen College of Medicine	No	No
Meharry Medical College	No	No
University of Tennessee College of Medicine	Yes	No
Vanderbilt University School of Medicine	Yes	No
Baylor College of Medicine	Yes	No
University of Houston Tilman J. Fertitta Family College of Medicine	No	No
Texas Christian University Anne Burnett Marion School of Medicine	No	No
Texas A&M Health Science Center College of Medicine	No	No
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Medicine	No	No
University of Texas at Tyler School of Medicine	No	No
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso Paul L. Foster School of Medicine	No	No
University of Texas at Austin Dell Medical School	No	No
University of Texas Health Sciences Center at Houston McGovern Medical School	Yes	No
University of Texas Medical Branch	No	No
University of Texas Rio Grande Valley School of Medicine	No	No
University of Texas Health Sciences Center at San Antonio Long School of Medicine	No	No
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center	No	No
University of Utah School of Medicine	No	No
University of Vermont Larner College of Medicine	Yes	No
Eastern Virginia Medical School	No	No
University of Virginia School of Medicine	Yes	No
Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine	No	No
Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine	Yes	No
University of Washington School of Medicine	No	No
Washington State University Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine	No	No
Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine	No	No
West Virginia University School of Medicine	Yes	No
Medical College of Wisconsin	Yes	No
University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health	Yes	No
<b>Total Yes</b>	<b>69/152</b> <b>(45 percent)</b>	<b>4/152</b> <b>(3 percent)</b>

## APPENDIX B: MEDICAL ASSOCIATIONS

Association	Ukraine	Israel
American Medical Association	Yes	Yes
American Academy of Allergy Asthma & Immunology	Yes	No
American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry	Yes	Yes
American Academy of Dermatology	Yes	Yes
American Academy of Family Physicians	No	No
American Academy of Neurology	Yes	No
American Academy of Ophthalmology	Yes	No
American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons	Yes	Yes
American Academy of Pain Medicine	No	No
American Academy of Pediatrics	Yes	Yes
American Academy of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation	Yes	No
American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists	No	No
American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine	Yes	No
American Association of Neurological Surgeons	Yes	Yes
American College of Cardiology	Yes	Yes
American College of Chest Physicians	Yes	No
American College of Emergency Physicians	Yes	No
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists	No	No
American College of Physicians	No	No
American College of Preventive Medicine	Yes	No
American College of Radiology	Yes	No
American College of Rheumatology	No	No
American College of Surgeons	Yes	No
American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine	No	No
American Osteopathic Association	Yes	Yes
American Psychiatric Association	Yes	Yes
American Roentgen Ray Society	Yes	No
American Society for Dermatologic Surgery	Yes	No
American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy	Yes	No
American Society of Addiction Medicine	Yes	No
American Society of Anesthesiologists	Yes	No
American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery	No	No
American Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery	No	No
American Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons	Yes	No
American Thoracic Society	Yes	Yes
American Urological Association	Yes	No

Association	Ukraine	Israel
College of American Pathologists	Yes	No
Endocrine Society	No	No
Radiological Society of North America	Yes	No
Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons	No	No
Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging	Yes	Yes
Society of Thoracic Surgeons	Yes	No
<b>Total Yes</b>	<b>31/42 (74 percent)</b>	<b>11/42 (26 percent)</b>



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