G-R23.10.3 For an Anti-Zionist Priority in Greater Baltimore in both Principle and Practice

Whereas, and in line with Convention Resolutions #4 and #62 from 2019, the Democratic Socialists of America (DSA) is an anti-imperialist organization;

Whereas, and in line with Convention Resolution #50 from 2019, the DSA is an anti-colonialist organization committed to advancing decolonization projects;

Whereas, and in line with Convention Resolutions #41 and #45 from 2017 and Resolutions #4 and #31 from 2021, the DSA is an anti-racist organization;

Whereas, and in line with Convention Resolutions #7&8 from 2017 and Resolution #35 from 2019, DSA National has publicly declared on numerous occasions in recent years that it "unapologetically stands in solidarity with Palestinian people everywhere;"

Whereas, Zionism – as popularized by Theodore Herzl and explicitly described by him as <u>"something colonial,"</u> meant to be "a wall of Europe against Asia... <u>an outpost of [Western] civilization against [Eastern] barbarism</u>" – is and has always been a racist, imperialist, settler-colonial project that has resulted in the ongoing death, displacement, and dehumanization of Palestinians everywhere (i.e., in Palestine and in diaspora around the world);

Whereas, the establishment of a Jewish ethnostate in Palestine and its maintenance via ongoing and illegal occupation, <u>apartheid</u> and <u>ethnic cleansing</u> represent the culmination of Zionists' <u>century-long</u> colonization of Palestine;

Whereas, and antithetical to the DSA's contemporary principles and policies, DSA's founding merger was heavily predicated on ensuring that the DSA would uphold DSOC's position of supporting continued American aid for Israel's Zionist settler-colonial project, as explicitly noted in our organization's founding merger documents (e.g., Points of Political Unity) and by Michael Harrington himself in his autobiography;

Whereas, and antithetical to the DSA's contemporary principles and policies, a number of DSA endorsed electeds (e.g., <u>Jamaal Bowman</u> & <u>Nithya Raman</u>) have consistently demonstrated a commitment to Zionism through their public opposition to BDS and/or support for legislation that harms Palestinians everywhere (e.g., public support for and votes in favor of U.S. financial aid to Israeli military, which forcefully advances the ongoing ethnic cleansing of Palestine through systematic tactics of abuse, forcible displacement, and murder of Palestinians; governmental adoption of definitions of antisemitism that conflate

anti-Zionism and antisemitism, leading to the suppression of speech of Palestinians and those in solidarity with them);

Whereas, the DSA's historic and contemporary association with and enablement of Zionism has jeopardized DSA rank-and-file membership's confidence in the integrity of DSA's overall politics, as well as our organization's <u>working</u> relationships with major <u>Palestinian-led grassroots</u> organizations across North America;

Whereas, DSA membership has overwhelmingly denounced Zionism through its stated principles and convention mandates since 2017 but has yet to articulate these newfound principles into a more coherent praxis;

Whereas, there is an urgent need for chapters to address the issue of anti-Zionism,

Therefore, be it resolved, the Greater Baltimore DSA chapter denounces the organization's Zionist roots and reaffirms its commitment to being an anti-racist, anti-imperialist organization by explicitly committing to being an anti-Zionist chapter—in both principle *and* praxis;

Be it further resolved, Greater Baltimore DSA condemns the Israeli ethnostate in Palestine, the Zionist entity, and affirms that such condemnation is not anti-Semitic;

Be it further resolved, Greater Baltimore DSA amends the platform to add:

Anti-Zionism and Palestinian Solidarity

We demand that our elected congressional, state, and city leadership publicly support the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement and pledge to vote against military aid to Israel. In order for there to be a liberated Palestine free for those regardless of ethnicity, religion, or culture, we demand an end to the apartheid and occupation in Palestine carried out by fascist Israel.

Be it further resolved, the Greater Baltimore DSA is an ally to the Palestinian resistance and believes the abolition of the Zionist entity is the only way forward toward a free Palestine, one that is free for those regardless of ethnicity, religion, or culture;

Be it further resolved, the chapter commits to holding at least 4 educational events related to Palestinian solidarity and liberation per year, and in the event the chapter forms a BDS and Palestinian Solidarity working group, the working group would run them;

Be it finally resolved, upon passage of this resolution, the resolution will be posted on chapter social media.