

DECLARATION OF DR. ASAF ROMIROWSKY

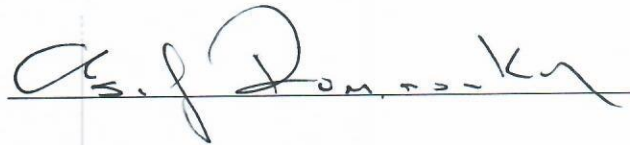
I, Asaf Romirowsky, make this declaration freely.

1. I am an adult and a citizen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
2. I am currently employed as the Executive Director of Scholars for Peace in the Middle East ("SPME"). SPME is an international community of scholars dedicated to promoting academic integrity in the study of the Middle East, particularly with regard to the conflict between Israel and its Arab neighbors. The organization embraces standards that have made modern universities and colleges centers of scholarship, creativity, knowledge, and academies of free and civil discourse. SPME is committed to facilitating campus discussions while striving to bring together individuals of varying views who share a good faith desire for knowledge, understanding and peace.
3. I am an alumnus of Hebrew University and hold a Ph.D. in Middle East and Mediterranean Studies from King's College London, UK. I have published widely on various aspects of the Arab-Israeli conflict and American foreign policy in the Middle East, as well as on Israeli and Zionist history. I am the co-author of Religion, Politics, and the Origins of Palestine Refugee Relief.
4. My work has been published widely in the national press as well as in scholarly journals, and has been featured in *The Wall Street Journal*, *The National Interest*, *The American Interest*, *The New Republic*, *The Times of Israel*, *Jerusalem Post*, *Ynet* and *Tablet Magazine*, among other online and print media outlets.
5. "Colonization" is, according to the theorists who believe in it, the process by which land which, in justice, belongs to an original or indigenous people, is seized by some other and different people who invade the territory, conquer it, and subjugate the original inhabitants.
6. "Decolonization" is, according to the theorists who believe in it, the reversal of that injustice, and constitutes the removal of the invaders and the recapture of land by its true owners. One of the principal advocates of this theory is Frantz Fanon, author of, among other works, *The Wretched of the Earth*. Fanon there explains that "decolonisation is always a violent phenomenon." *Id.* at 27 (1961 ed.).
7. The assertion that "decolonization is not a dinner party" is the assertion that this rectification of injustice is, necessarily, violent, and that such violence is just and appropriate because it is simply the reversal of the violence by which colonization was effected in the first place.

8. The phrase itself “decolonization is not a dinner party” is a paraphrase of a statement made by Mao Tse Tung, the founder of Communist China, who wrote, in 1927, that “revolution is not a dinner party.” Mao went on to explain that “A revolution is an insurrection, an act of violence by which one class overthrows another.” “Report on an Investigation of the Peasant Movement in Hunan” (March 1927), Selected Works, Vol. I, p. 28.
9. In an often cited paper, “Decolonization is Not a Metaphor,” academics Eve Tuck and K. Wayne Yang expound at length on the “entangled triad structure of settler-native-slave,” and the “the real and symbolic violence of settler colonialism.”
10. They posit decolonization as “a distinct project from other civil and human rights-based social justice projects, [one which] is far too often subsumed into the directives of these projects, with no regard for how decolonization wants something different than those forms of justice.” But they insist that “decolonization specifically requires the repatriation of Indigenous land and life.” According to these theorists, “decolonization is not obliged to answer” what methods are involved or what the future looks like for anyone.
11. The concept of decolonization dissolves fundamental international law categories of combatants and civilians. It legitimizes everything, including the abuse of corpses, and demands acquiescence in the name of “resistance” and “liberation.”
12. Those invoking the term “decolonization” are claiming an explicit license for ethnic cleansing and genocide, provided it is done by, and against, the proper people.
13. “Colonization” and “decolonization” as descriptors of what occurred in Israel on October 7, 2023, begins with the assertion that the Jewish presence, and Jewish sovereignty, in Israel constitutes “colonization” because, this theory posits, that the Jews are invaders and have seized land that truly belongs to someone else: the assertedly “indigenous” people who were there, allegedly, before the Jews.
14. Asserting that Hamas’s actions constitute “decolonization” thus begins by denying the Jewish connection to the land of Israel—a multi-millennial commitment and connection intimately bound up with Jewish belief, Jewish tradition, Jewish ethnic identity and the shared national ancestry of the Jewish people.
15. Someone describing Hamas’ actions on October 7 as “decolonization” is stating that rape, murder, kidnapping, beheading, torture, and execution of hostages, are justified as necessary to reverse the unjust seizure of land by Jews from what are claimed to be the “indigenous” holders of what is now the territory of the State of Israel.

16. The meaning of this statement is that the purpose of this “decolonization,” is, simply, the extermination of the Jewish State of Israel.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

 [SIGNATURE]

Executed on 12.12.24 [DATE]