



# THE RIGHT TO EDUCATION IS BEING DENIED IN THE LAND OF FREEDOM (!)

The unjust detention of young scientist and Tufts University PhD student Rümeyssa Öztürk, who was handcuffed by masked security agents from Boston Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), is the latest example of fundamental human rights violations against foreigners in the United States. The way that Öztürk was taken under custody, was horrible, as if she had been kidnapped. Dozens of students, including Palestinian activist Mahmoud Khalil, a student at Columbia University, had previously been arrested, and the number of students whose visas have been revoked in the last 3 weeks has exceeded 300.

The latest episode of Israel's criminal record, the Gaza genocide that has been ongoing for nearly 600 days, has been protested on many US university campuses. Freedom of thought and expression and non-violent protests are among the most basic human rights accepted by civilized societies. In this case, revoking the visas of international students in the US and their deportation is a violation of human rights and the destruction of legal assurance.

It is unacceptable that the most basic rights of international students are violated through "witch hunts" and administrative decisions. In fact, this situation shows that the Zionist pressure on US universities and citizens has taken hold of the US administration. The Trump administration, which is becoming more and more authoritarian every day, is cutting off the income of universities, which allow pro-Palestinian demonstrations and this is one of the most concrete examples of how academic freedoms are being restricted.

As AYBİR, we condemn the treatments that Rümeyssa Öztürk, Mahmud Halil and other international students are subjected to in the US. We would like to remind that the immediate restoration of the rights of students who want to exercise their freedom of thought and expression is also a requirement of academic freedom.

We believe that the days when the so-called free world is freed from the grip of Zionist barbarity and the occupied lands of Palestine are liberated are near. Until that day, the whole humanity will unite and continue to resist against the oppressions and injustices.