



The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA.
University of Oklahoma Student Government Association

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION 108
November 29th, 2022

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
SENATE SESSION GS23
January 26th, 2023

CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-108-22
SENATE RESOLUTION NO. GS23-03

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution in support of the Norman
Muslim community, through properly defining
Islamophobia; and providing for distribution.

- Whereas: 60% of Muslims are experiencing varying measures of prejudice;
- Whereas: Muslims are disproportionately affected by religious discrimination¹;
- Whereas: Islamophobic events rose by 4% from 2020 to 2022²;
- Whereas: Approximately 12,000 Oklahoma residents are Muslim³;
- Whereas: Muslim students at the University of Oklahoma have experienced Islamophobia in some shape or form while attending campus or in the Norman Community;
- Whereas: Additional students may have witnessed or experienced Islamophobia but failed to raise concern due to fear, retaliation, etc.; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA UNDERGRADUATE
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION:

- Section 1:** Title: This resolution shall be known and may be cited as the “OU SGA definition of Islamophobia.”
- Section 2:** The University of Oklahoma students, faculty, and staff recognizes any acts of Islamophobia that Muslim students at the University of Oklahoma have experienced and/or witnessed.

¹ Mogahed, Dalia, and Erum Ikramullah. American Muslim Poll 2020: Amid Pandemic and Protest. Institute for Social Policy and Understanding, 2020.

² Mogahed, Dalia & Ikramullah, Erum. American Muslim Poll 2022: A Politics and Pandemic Status Report. August 2022: Institute for Social Policy and Understanding.

³ Soltani, Adam. “Guide to Islam and Muslims in Oklahoma.” CAIR Oklahoma, CAIR Oklahoma, 13 July 2022, <https://www.cairoklahoma.com/islamguide/>.



Section 3: The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association will adopt the following non-legally binding working definition for Islamophobia, which reads as follows:

- “Islamophobia is an extreme fear of and hostility toward Islam and Muslims. It often leads to hate speech and hate crimes, social and political discrimination, can be used to rationalize policies such as mass surveillance, incarceration, and disenfranchisement, and can influence domestic and foreign policy⁴”.

Section 4: The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association will utilize the following examples of Islamophobia identified by Bridge to further educate the student body on forms of Islamophobia, including but not limited to:

- Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Muslims in the name of radical ideology or an extremist view of religion.
- Making mendacious, dehumanizing, demonizing, or stereotypical allegations about Muslims.
- Accusing Muslims as a people of being responsible for real or imagined wrongdoing committed by a single Muslim person or group, or even for acts committed by non-Muslims.
- Accusing Muslim citizens of being more loyal to the alleged priorities of Muslims worldwide, than to the interests of their own nations.

Section 5: Copies of this resolution will be sent to:

- President Joseph Harroz
- Dr. Belinda Hyppolite, Vice President of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- The University of Oklahoma Board of Regents
- Dr. David Surratt, Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students
- Quy Nguyen, Director of Student Life
- Dr. Deonnie Moodie, Religious Studies Department Chair
- The OU Daily
- The OU Nightly
- All OU Norman Campus Students

⁴ Hafez, Farid, and Arsalan Iftikhar. “What Is Islamophobia?” Bridge Initiative. Georgetown University, 2018. <https://bridge.georgetown.edu/about-us/what-is-islamophobia/>.

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Yara Kataneh, University College Representative
Hope Rhoads, University College Representative

Submitted on a motion by: Representative Ghazal seconded by Representative Rhoads
Action taken by Congress: 23-0-0 Unanimous Pass

Verified by Chair of Congress: Ally Halverson Date: 02-13-2023

Submitted on a motion by: Senator Norris (112)
Action taken by Senate: motion to pass by unanimous consent

Verified by Chair of Senate: Clara Burr Date: 2/13/2023

Approved by SGA President: Christopher Finch Date: 02-13-2023