

U.S. Federal court strikes down Georgia legislation requiring contractors to pledge not to boycott Israel

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Atlanta, May 25 (RHC)-- A U.S. federal court has struck down a Georgia law banning the state from doing business with anyone who supports the Palestinian-led Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement against Israel.

The ruling came in a lawsuit filed by independent journalist Abby Martin, who was barred from speaking at Georgia Southern University in 2019 because she refused to sign a pledge against the BDS movement.

Under Georgia law, any recipient of a government contract larger than \$1,000 must sign such a pledge. Abby Martin filed the lawsuit last year. She told reporters: “My right to speak at a conference on media at a public university was conditioned on my pledge to never participate in my constitutional right to engage in peaceful political action. It is not just this particular conference, but my right to speak at any public university or similar event in the entire state has been taken away because I will not forfeit my constitutional rights by signing this pledge.”

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