

Police repression against protesters on U.S. campuses only further emboldens them

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Arrests at University of Texas / Austin

New York, April 29 (RHC)-- According to a report from the media agency Al-Jazeera, student protests against Washington's clearly stated 'ironclad' support of Israel's genocidal war on Gaza is encouraging.

Linda Sarsour, a Palestinian-American activist from New York City, told Al Jazeera that the protests at numerous U.S. universities have demonstrated that the “tide has shifted” within the country and across the world on the issue of Palestine.

“These young people stand in the long tradition of student activism against the war in Vietnam, against South African apartheid, and now for the freedom and justice for the Palestinian people,” she said following an appearance at a pro-Palestine demonstration at Princeton University.

The Brooklyn-based co-founder of Women’s March, however, said that despite the peaceful protests, students are being “brutalised” by law enforcement officers. “The fact that we are suppressing young people across this country only further emboldens them” to continue their protests, she said, adding that the arrests of students -- carried out by police with the consent of university administrators -- shows how the country’s university system is set up to be “ beholden to their donors, instead of being loyal to their students.”

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