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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN JOSE DIVISION**

THE STANFORD DAILY PUBLISHING
CORPORATION, JANE DOE, and JOHN
DOE,

Plaintiffs,

v.

MARCO RUBIO, in his official capacity as
Secretary of State, and

KRISTI NOEM, in her official capacity as
Secretary of Homeland Security,

Defendants.

Case No. 5:25-cv-06618

**VERIFIED AMENDED COMPLAINT FOR
DECLARATORY AND INJUNCTIVE
RELIEF**

1 “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are
2 endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and
3 the pursuit of Happiness.”

4 INTRODUCTION

5 1. In the United States of America, no one should fear a midnight knock on the door for
6 voicing the wrong opinion. That is because America’s founding principle, core to who and what we
7 are as a Nation, is that liberty comes not from the benevolent hand of a king, but is an inherent right
8 of every man, woman, and child. American liberty enshrines in the First Amendment the
9 “inalienable human rights” to “think as you will and to speak as you think.” *303 Creative LLC v.*
10 *Elenis*, 600 U.S. 570, 584 (2023) (internal quotation marks omitted).

11 2. But Secretary of State Marco Rubio and the Trump administration are trying to turn
12 the inalienable human right of free speech into a privilege contingent upon the whims of a federal
13 bureaucrat, triggering deportation proceedings against noncitizens residing lawfully in this country
14 for their protected political speech regarding American and Israeli foreign policy. The Secretary of
15 State and the President claim to possess unreviewable statutory authority to deport any lawfully
16 present noncitizen for speech the government deems anti-American or anti-Israel.

17 3. They are wrong. The Federalists tried the same gambit 227 years ago with the Alien
18 Friends Act, which allowed President Adams to deport any noncitizen he deemed dangerous to
19 “peace and safety.” An Act Concerning Aliens, ch. 58, § 1, 1 Stat. 570, 571 (1789) (expired Mar. 3,
20 1801). It was “one of the most notorious laws in our country’s history,” “widely condemned as
21 unconstitutional,” and “may have cost the Federalist Party its existence.” *Sessions v. Dimaya*, 584
22 U.S. 148, 185 (2018) (Gorsuch, J., concurring in part and in judgment).

23 4. 225 years after the Alien Friends Act expired, the danger of nighttime raids on
24 noncitizens for perceived thoughtcrime is reality once more. Secretary Rubio and the Trump
25 administration’s war against noncitizens’ freedom of speech is intended to send an unmistakable
26 message: Watch what you say, or you could be next.

27 5. Message received. At Plaintiff Stanford Daily, the independent, student-run
28 newspaper at Stanford University, writers present on student visas are declining assignments related

1 to the conflict in the Middle East, worried that even reporting on the conflict will endanger their
 2 lawful immigration status. And Plaintiffs Jane Doe and John Doe, lawfully present noncitizens with
 3 no criminal history, have likewise self-censored because of their rational concern about the ongoing
 4 danger of deportation for expression Secretary Rubio deems anti-American or anti-Israel.

5 6. This pall of fear is incompatible with American liberty. Our First Amendment stands
 6 as a bulwark against the government infringing the inalienable human right to think and speak for
 7 yourself. That is why the Supreme Court held over 80 years ago that “[f]reedom of speech and of
 8 press is accorded aliens residing in this country.” *Bridges v. Wixon*, 326 U.S. 135, 148 (1945). Our
 9 First Amendment does not “acknowledge[] any distinction between citizens and resident aliens.”
 10 *Kwong Hai Chew v. Colding*, 344 U.S. 590, 596 n.5 (1953) (internal quotation marks omitted).

11 7. Secretary Rubio and the administration rely on two provisions of the Immigration
 12 and Nationality Act (“INA”) for their supposed power to censor lawfully present noncitizens. The
 13 first allows the Secretary of State to render a noncitizen deportable if he “personally determines”
 14 their *lawful* “beliefs, statements, or associations” “compromise a compelling United States foreign
 15 policy interest.” 8 U.S.C. §§ 1182(a)(3)(C)(iii), 1227(a)(4)(C)(i) (the “Deportation Provision”). The
 16 second allows the Secretary to “at any time, in his discretion, revoke” a “visa or other
 17 documentation.” *Id.* § 1201(i) (the “Revocation Provision”).

18 8. Both provisions are unconstitutional as applied to protected speech. The First
 19 Amendment cements America’s promise that the government may not subject a speaker to
 20 disfavored treatment because those in power do not like his or her message. And when a federal
 21 statute collides with First Amendment rights, the Constitution prevails. U.S. Const. amend. I
 22 (“Congress shall make no law ... abridging the freedom of speech”); *see also, e.g., United States*
 23 *v. Robel*, 389 U.S. 258, 268 n.20 (1967) (rejecting “balancing” First Amendment rights against
 24 “interests of national security”).

25 9. Secretary Rubio and the Trump administration claim (as all censors do) that this time
 26 is different, that the supposed repulsiveness of anti-American and anti-Israel views mean the
 27 government should get a free pass for censorship. But “[i]f there is a bedrock principle underlying
 28

the First Amendment, it is that the government may not prohibit the expression of an idea simply because society finds the idea itself offensive or disagreeable.” *Texas v. Johnson*, 491 U.S. 397, 414 (1989) (holding the First Amendment protects burning the American flag in protest). Plaintiffs, who are affected by this censorship, bring this case to restore freedom of speech in the United States.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

10. This action arises under the First and Fifth Amendments to the United States Constitution.

11. The Court has jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and the First and Fifth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution.

12. The Court has authority to issue the requested relief under the Declaratory Relief Act at 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201–2202, Rules 57 and 65 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and the Court’s inherent equitable powers. The Court has authority to award costs and attorneys’ fees under 28 U.S.C. § 2412.

13. Venue in this action against officers and employees of the United States is proper in this district under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(e)(1)(B) because a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to these claims occurred in this district and additionally under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(e)(1)(C) because Plaintiff Stanford Daily resides in this district.

DIVISION

14. This action should be assigned to the San Jose Division because a substantial part of the events giving rise to these claims occurred in the county of Santa Clara, where Plaintiff Stanford Daily resides. Civil L.R. 3-2(c), (e).

THE PARTIES

Plaintiffs

15. Plaintiff Stanford Daily Publishing Corporation (“Stanford Daily”) is a California nonprofit corporation based in Stanford, California. Its primary holding is *The Stanford Daily*, which is the independent, student-run newspaper of Stanford University.

1 16. *The Stanford Daily* covers news related to Stanford University, publishing short- and
2 long-form articles, along with editorials. For decades, *The Stanford Daily* has included coverage of
3 student opinions and campus protests related to the conflict between Israel and Palestine. Its
4 coverage has increased considerably since the October 7, 2023, attack. Since March 2025, fearing
5 Secretary Rubio will revoke their visas under the Revocation Provision or render them deportable
6 under the Deportation Provision, many of the paper’s noncitizen writers who are lawfully present
7 in the United States have self-censored by declining to cover pro-Palestinian student protests at
8 Stanford, refraining from covering topics related to the conflict in Gaza, and seeking removal of
9 their previous articles about it.

10 17. Plaintiff Jane Doe¹ is a noncitizen lawfully present in the United States, having
11 entered lawfully pursuant to an F-1 student visa. Jane Doe has published pro-Palestinian/anti-Israel
12 commentary online. Jane Doe has not been accused of violating any university rules nor has she
13 been charged with or convicted of any crime. Yet she is listed on the Canary Mission website, which
14 compiles profiles on individuals the organization views as having “anti-Israel” opinions. A Trump
15 administration official testified that “most of the names” of individuals targeted for deportation
16 based on pro-Palestinian advocacy come from Canary Mission. Since March 2025, fearing Secretary
17 Rubio will revoke her visa under the Revocation Provision or render her deportable under the
18 Deportation Provision, Jane Doe has refrained from publishing and voicing her true opinions
19 regarding Palestine and Israel.

20 18. Plaintiff John Doe is a noncitizen lawfully present in the United States in valid
21 nonimmigrant status, having entered lawfully pursuant to an F-1 student visa. After the October 7,
22 2023, attack, John Doe peacefully attended pro-Palestinian academic discussions at his university
23 and protests at his university and elsewhere. John Doe composed academic papers related to Israel
24 and Palestine and shared pro-Palestinian/anti-Israel (which John Doe considers “anti-genocide”)
25

26 ¹ Jane Doe and John Doe are pseudonyms that two lawfully present noncitizens plaintiffs are
27 using because they fear government retaliation for their protected expression. The Court granted the
28 Doe Plaintiffs’ unopposed motion to proceed pseudonymously and reserved the right to revisit the
use of pseudonyms at a later stage of the proceedings if circumstances change. Dkt. No. 51.

commentary online. John Doe has not been accused of violating any university rules nor has he been charged with or convicted of any crime. Beginning in March 2025 and continuing into April 2025, John Doe feared that Secretary Rubio would revoke his visa under the Revocation Provision or render him deportable under the Deportation Provision based on his published works and pro-Palestinian stance. John Doe therefore refrained, for example, from publishing findings from his study related to Israel's actions in Gaza. He has since engaged in journalism about Israel and Palestine, including publishing those findings, and engaged in pro-Palestinian advocacy, all of which places him at risk of visa revocation and deportation.

Defendants

19. Defendant Marco Rubio is the Secretary of State and has authority over the operations of the State Department. In that capacity and through his agents, Defendant Rubio has broad authority over the operation and enforcement of the immigration laws. Relevant here, the Revocation Provision provides Secretary Rubio unilateral discretion to “revoke” “visa[s] or other documentation,” and the Deportation Provision provides Secretary Rubio unilateral discretion to render noncitizens deportable for protected speech if he “personally determines” a noncitizen’s speech “compromise[s] a compelling United States foreign policy interest.” Plaintiffs sue Secretary Rubio in his official capacity.

20. Defendant Kristi Noem is the Secretary of Homeland Security and has ultimate authority over the Department of Homeland Security (“DHS”), which includes various component agencies including U.S. Immigration Customs and Enforcement (“ICE”). In that capacity and through her agents, Defendant Noem has broad authority over the operation and enforcement of the immigration laws, including authority to initiate removal proceedings in immigration court and arrest and detain noncitizens while removal proceedings are pending, and therefore leads a mechanism by which Secretary Rubio’s revocation and deportation proclamations are executed. Plaintiffs sue Secretary Noem in her official capacity.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

I. The October 7 Attacks and Ensuing Protests and Other Speech

21. On October 7, 2023, Hamas and other Palestinian militant groups launched a coordinated attack in southern Israel, leading Israel to launch a counterattack and ground invasion of Gaza.

22. At American universities, some students and faculty viewed Israel's response as disproportionate. Planned and spontaneous protests erupted across the country, variously calling for a ceasefire, increased humanitarian aid to Palestinians, and university divestment of financial portfolios from Israel.

23. Some protests featured calls for a "free Palestine" and included chants such as "from the river to the sea, Palestine will be free" and "intifada revolution."

24. Other events featured pro-Palestinian advocates handing out flyers.

25. Some protesters engaged in violence, property damage, and blockades of pro-Israel students attending classes. Many protests, however, remained peaceful.

26. Apart from protests, others on and off campus voiced their viewpoints on the conflict through social media, in news interviews and editorials, and in other forums.

II. During the 2024 Campaign and After the Election, Trump Makes Clear His Administration Will Target Noncitizens Based on Speech.

27. President Donald J. Trump was the Republican Party's 2024 nominee for President of the United States.

28. The 2024 platform of the Republican Party expressed support for "revoking Visas of Foreign Nationals who support terrorism and jihadism."

29. Mr. Trump's campaign website linked to the Republican Party platform.

30. Mr. Trump's campaign website separately promised to "[d]eport pro-Hamas radicals and make our college campuses safe and patriotic again."

1 31. At campaign rally on October 16, 2023, Mr. Trump promised to revoke the visas of
2 foreign students deemed “radical, anti-American, and anti-Semitic” and to “aggressively deport”
3 resident aliens with “jihadist sympathies.”

4 32. At an event on October 28, 2023, Mr. Trump committed, “I will cancel the student
5 visas of Hamas sympathizers on college campuses. The college campuses are being taken over, and
6 all of the resident aliens who joined in the pro-jihadist protest this month—nobody’s ever seen
7 anything like it—come 2025 we will find you and we will deport you. We will deport you.”

8 33. At a campaign rally on November 8, 2023, Mr. Trump promised, “I will also quickly
9 cancel the student visas of all Hamas sympathizers on college campuses, which have been infested
10 with radicalism like never before.”

11 34. At the same rally, Mr. Trump said, “If you hate America, if you want to abolish
12 Israel, if you sympathize with jihadists, then we don’t want you in our country To all the resident
13 aliens who joined in the pro-jihadist protests ... we put you on notice: Come 2025, we will find you
14 and we will deport you.”

15 35. On May 14, 2024, Mr. Trump said at a campaign event, “One thing I do is, any
16 student that protests, I throw them out of the country. You know, there are a lot of foreign students.
17 As soon as they hear that, they’re going to behave.”

18 36. On January 20, 2025, President Trump issued an executive order stating that the
19 government would ensure that noncitizens present in the United States “do not bear hostile attitudes”
20 toward the United States government and do not “advocate for” or “support” “foreign terrorists and
21 other threats to our national security.” Exec. Order No. 14,161, 90 Fed. Reg. 8451, 8451 (Jan. 20,
22 2025).

23 37. The U.S. Senate unanimously confirmed Mr. Rubio as Secretary of State, and he took
24 office on January 21, 2025. The Secretary of State serves at the pleasure of the President.

25 38. On January 30, 2025, the White House issued a fact sheet promising to revoke the
26 visas of and deport “Hamas Sympathizers,” stating, “To all the resident aliens who joined in the
27 pro-jihadist protests, we put you on notice: come 2025, we will find you, and we will deport you. I
28

will also quickly cancel the student visas of all Hamas sympathizers on college campuses, which have been infested with radicalism like never before.” *Fact Sheet: President Donald J. Trump Takes Forceful and Unprecedented Steps to Combat Anti-Semitism*, The White House (Jan. 30, 2025), <https://perma.cc/GY4H-7ASR>.

39. The administration considers “[f]rom the river to the sea, Palestine will be free” to express support for Hamas, capable of justifying action under the Revocation or Deportation Provisions. Trial Tr. vol. 1, 32–35, *Am. Ass’n of Univ. Professors v. Rubio*, No. 25-cv-10685 (D. Mass. July 18, 2025), <https://perma.cc/S854-PXXK>. Likewise, calling Israel “an apartheid state,” “calling for an arms embargo on Israel,” or “criticizing Israel’s actions in Gaza” might be sufficient to invoke the Revocation or Deportation Provisions. *Id.*

III. The Trump Administration Arrests, Detains, and Attempts to Deport Noncitizens for Protected Speech.

40. Trump and his administration made good on their promises, aggressively targeting lawfully present noncitizens for protected speech, particularly at universities.

41. Mahmoud Khalil was a graduate student at Columbia University and a lawful permanent resident (green card holder).

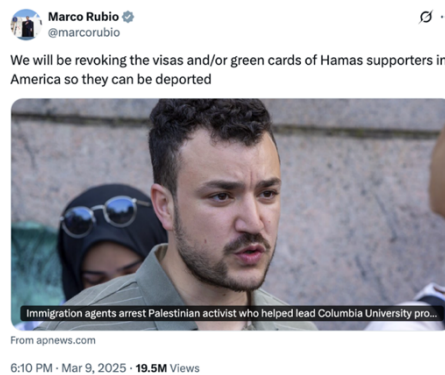
42. Mr. Khalil had been an active participant at Columbia in demonstrations and advocacy against Israel’s actions following the October 7, 2023, attack. Mr. Khalil repeatedly criticized Israel’s military operations in Gaza and what he viewed as Columbia’s financing and facilitation of those activities.

43. Late in the evening on March 8, 2025, agents from DHS arrested Mr. Khalil with no prior notice at his apartment, transferred him to a Louisiana immigration jail, and initiated proceedings to deport him from the United States.

44. The DHS document initiating removal proceedings against Mr. Khalil cited his protected speech as the sole basis for his deportation under the Deportation Provision. DHS later explained Secretary Rubio had “personally determined” Mr. Khalil’s continued presence “would have potentially severe adverse foreign policy consequences and would compromise a compelling

U.S. foreign policy interest” because of Mr. Khalil’s “participation” in “antisemitic protests and disruptive activities, which fosters a hostile environment for Jewish students in the United States.” *Khalil v. Trump*, No. 25-cv-01963, 2025 WL 1514713, at *7 (D.N.J. May 28, 2025), *appeal docketed sub nom.*, *Khalil v. President United States of America*, No. 25-2162 (3d Cir. June 23, 2025).

45. On March 9, 2025, reacting on social media to Mr. Khalil’s arrest, Secretary Rubio wrote, “We will be revoking the visas and/or green cards of Hamas supporters in America so they can be deported.” Marco Rubio (@marcorubio), X (Mar. 9, 2025, at 6:10 PM), <https://perma.cc/726Z-VT4Z>.



46. That same day, DHS posted on social media, “On March 9, in support of President Trump's executive orders prohibiting anti-Semitism, and in coordination with the Department of State, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement arrested Mahmoud Khalil, a former Columbia University graduate student. Khalil led activities aligned to Hamas, a designated terrorist organization.” Homeland Security (@DHSgov), X (Mar. 9, 2025, at 9:29 PM), <https://perma.cc/YS5C-2TKG>.

47. On March 10, 2025, reacting to Mr. Khalil’s arrest, President Trump warned that additional students involved in “pro-terrorist, anti-Semitic, anti-American activity” will be found and deported, vowing that “the Trump administration will not tolerate it” and that Mr. Khalil’s arrest was the “first” of “many to come.” Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump), Truth Social (Mar. 10, 2025, at 1:05 PM), <https://perma.cc/6VPC-AESU>.

1 48. On March 11, 2025, White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt told reporters that
 2 Mr. Khalil faced deportation because he “sid[ed] with terrorists, Hamas terrorists, who have killed
 3 innocent men, women, and children.” Ms. Leavitt also asserted Mr. Khalil “distributed pro-Hamas
 4 propaganda flyers with the logo of Hamas” on Columbia’s campus, though the government never
 5 offered evidence to substantiate this statement. She emphasized, “This administration is not going
 6 to tolerate individuals ... studying in our country and then siding with pro-terrorist organizations.”

7 49. Mr. Khalil remained in a Louisiana immigration jail until June 20, 2025, when a
 8 federal court ordered his release on constitutional grounds. *Khalil v. Trump*, No. 25-cv-01963
 9 (D.N.J. June 20, 2025), ECF No. 316, *appeal docketed sub nom., Khalil v. President United States*
 10 *of America*, No. 25-2162 (3d Cir. June 23, 2025).

11 50. On March 13, 2025, in an interview with NPR, Deputy Homeland Security Secretary
 12 Troy Edgar conceded that Mr. Khalil’s deportable “offense” was participating in protests.

13 51. Rümeysa Öztürk is a PhD student at Tufts University in Boston, Massachusetts. She
 14 is a citizen of Turkey and studies in the United States on an F-1 student visa.

15 52. Ms. Öztürk coauthored an op-ed in the Tufts student newspaper, *The Tufts Daily*, in
 16 March 2024. The article criticized the University’s refusal to adopt several resolutions approved by
 17 the undergraduate student senate urging the University to, among other things, recognize a genocide
 18 in Gaza and divest from Israeli companies.

19 53. On March 25, 2025, six plain-clothes federal officers surrounded Ms. Öztürk on the
 20 street outside her home in Somerville, Massachusetts. The officers detained her and quickly
 21 transported her to a Louisiana immigration jail.

22 54. Four days before Ms. Öztürk’s arrest, the State Department, relying solely on her
 23 protected expression, had revoked Ms. Öztürk’s visa under the Revocation Provision. A DHS
 24 spokesperson justified the revocation by asserting Öztürk’s editorial “[g]lorif[ied] and support[ed]
 25 terrorists.”

1 55. Ms. Öztürk remained in a Louisiana immigration jail until May 9, 2025, when a
2 federal court ordered her release on constitutional grounds. *Ozturk v. Trump*, No. 25-cv-374, 2025
3 WL 1355667 (D. Vt. May 9, 2025).

4 56. Mohsen Mahdawi is an undergraduate student at Columbia University and a legal
5 permanent resident (green card holder) in the United States.

6 57. As a student at Columbia, Mr. Mahdawi was an outspoken critic of Israel’s military
7 campaign in Gaza. He appeared on televised news interviews, in print news articles, and spoke at
8 protests.

9 58. On April 14, 2025, after Mr. Mahdawi completed the citizenship test to become a
10 United States citizen, masked DHS agents entered the interview room and arrested him, after which
11 the Trump administration began proceedings to deport him from the United States.

12 59. Secretary Rubio relied upon the Deportation Provision to attempt Mr. Mahdawi’s
13 removal, claiming his protests and rhetoric undermined the U.S. foreign policy goal of promoting
14 peace in the Middle East. Resp. in Opp’n to Mot. for Release Ex. A, at 2, *Mahdawi v. Trump*, No.
15 25-cv-00389, 2025 WL 1243135 (D. Vt. Apr. 30, 2025), ECF No. 42-1, *appeal docketed*, No. 25-
16 1113 (2d Cir. May 1, 2025).

17 60. Mr. Mahdawi remained in a Vermont immigration jail until May 9, 2025, when a
18 federal court ordered his release on constitutional grounds. *Mahdawi*, 2025 WL 1243135.

19 61. Since March 2025, the Trump administration has continued revoking the visas of and
20 arresting, detaining, and attempting to deport lawfully present noncitizens under the Deportation
21 and Revocation Provisions based on protected expression and has reiterated its intention in public
22 statements to continue doing so.

23 62. On April 14, 2025, White House Deputy Chief of Staff and Homeland Security
24 Advisor Stephen Miller said on Fox News that any noncitizen “who preaches hate for America” will
25 be deported.

26 63. On May 8, 2025, Department of Homeland Security Assistant Secretary for Public
27 Affairs Tricia McLaughlin posted on X that noncitizens “pushing Hamas propaganda,” “glorifying
28

1 terrorists,” or otherwise engaging in “anti-American” conduct “can expect your visa will be
2 revoked.” Tricia McLaughlin (@TriciaOhio), X (May 8, 2025, at 10:26 AM),
3 <https://perma.cc/5ZJ3-4VUU>.

4 64. On May 20, 2025, Secretary Rubio testified before the Senate foreign relations
5 committee. He said, in reference to visa revocations, “There are more coming. We’re going to
6 continue to revoke the visas of people who are here as guests and are disrupting our higher education
7 facilities. People are paying money, these kids pay money to go to school and they have to walk
8 through a bunch of lunatics who are here on student visas. It’s as simple as that. I want to do more.
9 I hope we can find more of these people.”

10 65. On May 21, 2025, Secretary Rubio testified before the House foreign affairs
11 committee. Responding to a question about the revocation of Öztürk’s visa based on her speech, he
12 said he “proudly” revoked her visa, that he revokes visas every day, and that he would continue
13 revoking visas.

14 66. On July 18, 2025, John Armstrong, Senior Bureau Official in the Bureau of Consular
15 Affairs, testified in the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts that mere
16 criticism of Israel, such as calling for an arms embargo or calling Israel an “apartheid state,” are,
17 per the Trump administration, legitimate grounds to revoke a visa. Trial Tr. vol. 1, 32–35, *Am. Ass’n*
18 *of Univ. Professors v. Rubio*, No. 25-cv-10685 (D. Mass. July 18, 2025), [https://perma.cc/S854-](https://perma.cc/S854-PXXX)
19 [PXXX](https://perma.cc/S854-PXXX).

67. On July 29, 2025, White House Deputy Chief of Staff and Homeland Security Advisor Stephen Miller posted on X that administration officials are “working continuously” to revoke visas from noncitizens “who espouse hatred for American or its people”—not just noncitizens who criticize Israel. Stephen Miller (@StephenM), X (July 29, 2025, at 9:08 PM), <https://perma.cc/U9JN-FQK7>.



Stephen Miller
@StephenM



This is just patently false. We have officials working continuously to identity, revoke or deny foreigners' visas who espouse hatred for America or its people. This is a top priority. College students who witness such conduct can use the ICE tip line. Also: there is no “speech code” of any kind in the Columbia deal. There is an ironclad requirement — with enforcement mechanisms — to admit students based on actual merit and not illegal racial quotas, set asides or preferences.



Glenn Greenwald @gggreenwald · 19h

Exactly. No foreign students are being deported by the Trump State Department and ICE for criticizing the US - only for criticizing Israel.

Just like the "hate speech" codes Trump demanded US colleges adopt allows students to call the US a "racist endeavor" but not Israel. ...

9:08 PM · Jul 29, 2025 · 540.6K Views

68. On August 20, 2025, DHS posted on X: “If you hate America, you have no business demanding to live in America.” Homeland Security (@DHSgov), X (Aug. 20, 2025, at 12:30 PM), <https://perma.cc/K649-DNLK>.

69. On September 11, 2025, in response to Charlie Kirk’s assassination, Deputy Secretary of State Christopher Landau posted on X: “In light of yesterday’s horrific assassination of a leading political figure, I want to underscore that foreigners who glorify violence and hatred are not welcome visitors to our country. I have been disgusted to see some on social media praising, rationalizing, or making light of the event, and have directed our consular officials to undertake appropriate action. Please feel free to bring such comments by foreigners to my attention so that the @StateDept can protect the American people.” Christopher Landau (@DeputySecState), X (Sep. 11, 2025, at 8:20 AM), <https://perma.cc/7N8S-TT75>.

70. On September 14, 2025, Deputy Landua responded on X to a video of a noncitizen mocking Charlie Kirk's assassination: "Rest assured that the @StateDept has revoked his visa so at least he will not be engaging in his grotesque diatribes on American soil." Christopher Landau (@DeputySecState), X (Sep. 14, 2025, at 12:35 PM), <https://perma.cc/6KB2-DJ9M>.

71. On September 15, 2025, Secretary Rubio posted on X: "America will not host foreigners who celebrate the death of our fellow citizens. Visa revocations are under way. If you are here on a visa and cheering on the public assassination of a political figure, prepare to be deported. You are not welcome in this country." Secretary Marco Rubio (@SecRubio), X (Sep. 15, 2025, at 10:54 PM), <https://perma.cc/L24D-NRKV>.

72. On October 5, 2025, DHS posted on X that it arrested "terrorist sympathizers across our country." Homeland Security (@DHSgov), X (Oct. 5, 2025, at 7:09 PM), <https://perma.cc/MX99-CR62>.

73. On October 14, 2025, the State Department posted on X: "The United States has no obligation to host foreigners who wish death on Americans. The State Department continues to identify visa holders who celebrated the heinous assassination of Charlie Kirk. Here are just a few examples of aliens who are no longer welcome in the U.S." The post was followed by six examples:

"An Argentine national said that Kirk 'devoted his entire life spreading racist, xenophobic, misogynistic rhetoric' and deserves to burn in hell. Visa revoked."

"A South African national mocked Americans grieving the loss of Kirk, saying 'they're hurt that the racist rally ended in attempted martyrdom' and alleging 'he was used to astroturf a movement of white nationalist trailer trash.' Visa revoked."

"A Mexican national said that Kirk 'died being a racist, he died being a misogynist' and stated that 'there are people who deserve to die. There are people who would make the world better off dead.' Visa revoked."

"A Brazilian national charged that 'Charlie Kirk was the reason for a Nazi rally where they marched in homage to him' and that Kirk 'DIED TOO LATE.' Visa revoked."

"A German national celebrated Kirk's death and attempted to justify his murder, writing 'when fascists die, democrats don't complain.' Visa revoked."

1 “A Paraguayan national charged that ‘Charlie Kirk was a son of a b**** and he
died by his own rules.’ Visa revoked.”²

2 74. The State Department also posted: “Aliens who take advantage of America’s
3 hospitality while celebrating the assassination of our citizens will be removed.” Department of State
4 (@StateDept), X (Oct. 14, 2025, at 5:55 PM), <https://perma.cc/S6FW-WR3C>.

5 75. On October 17, 2025, the State Department posted on X: “We heard Bluesky is a
6 great place to research visa revocations.” Department of State (@StateDept), X (Oct. 17, 2025), at
7 7:24 PM), <https://perma.cc/G7CC-YUHP>.

8 76. On October 26, 2025, ICE arrested Sami Hamdi, a British political commentator who
9 was on a speaking tour in the United States and often supports Palestine.

10 77. That same day, Tricia McLaughlin quoted a post about Mr. Hamdi’s arrest and said:
11 “Thanks to the work of @Sec_Noem and @SecRubio and the men and women of law enforcement,
12 this individual’s visa was revoked and he is in ICE custody pending removal. Under President
13 Trump, those who support terrorism and undermine American national security will not be allowed
14 to work or visit this country. It’s commonsense.” Tricia McLaughlin (@TriciaOhio), X (Oct. 26,
15 2025, at 2:28 PM), <https://perma.cc/ZKQ8-Q8RY>.

16 78. That same day, the State Department quoted Ms. McLaughlin’s post and said:
17 “We’ve said it before, we’ll say it again: The United States has no obligation to host foreigners who
18 support terrorism and actively undermine the safety of Americans. We continue to revoke the visas
19 of persons engaged in such activity. Thank you to our partners at @DHSgov for their efforts to
20 remove this individual.” Department of State (@StateDept), X (Oct. 26, 2025, at 5:46 PM),
21 <https://perma.cc/WMP6-XMK7>.

22 79. On November 5, 2025, DHS posted on X: “The U.S. has no obligation to host
23 foreigners, like Sami Hamdi, who support terrorism and actively undermine the safety of Americans.
24 And we won’t. There is no room in the United States for the rest of the world’s terrorist
25

26 ² Department of State (@StateDept), X (Oct. 14, 2025, at 5:55 PM). The posts have been archived
27 at the following links: <https://perma.cc/2AVU-8P9Z>; <https://perma.cc/4898-YRE3>;
<https://perma.cc/R47Y-D293>; <https://perma.cc/8RSE-5MGP>; <https://perma.cc/QYQ3-4WEU>;
28 <https://perma.cc/MPC2-653S>; <https://perma.cc/CQQ7-GM8B>.

1 sympathizers, and we are under no obligation to admit them or let them stay here. @Sec_Noem has
2 made it clear that anyone who thinks they can come to America and hide behind the First
3 Amendment to advocate for anti-American and anti-Semitic violence and terrorism – think again.”
4 Homeland Security (@DHSgov), X (Nov. 5, 2025, at 11:10 AM), <https://perma.cc/2A8P-4QPS>.

5 80. On November 18, 2025, Stephen Miller said, “The State Department has revoked
6 tens of thousands of visas, and they’re just getting started on tens of thousands more.”

7 **IV. Stanford Daily’s Noncitizen Staff Self-Censors, Fearing Immigration Consequences for**
8 **Protected Speech.**

9 81. Stanford Daily operates and publishes *The Stanford Daily*, the student-run newspaper
10 at Stanford University.

11 82. Stanford Daily is a validly incorporated 501(c)(3) organization.

12 83. Since its founding as *The Daily Palo Alto* in 1892, Stanford Daily has sought to cover
13 all relevant campus activities in an unbiased fashion and provide an outlet for Stanford community
14 members to publish opinions.

15 84. Stanford Daily’s mission statement explains that it “strives to serve the Stanford
16 community with relevant, unbiased journalism and provides its editorial, tech and business staffs
17 with unparalleled educational opportunities.”

18 85. As part of its mission, Stanford Daily has defended and advocated for press rights
19 and the rights of all journalists to report the news and publish opinions without government or
20 university retaliation.

21 86. For a famous example, after the chief of the Palo Alto Police Department James
22 Zurcher raided *The Stanford Daily*’s offices in 1971, Stanford Daily sued to protect its members and
23 defend press freedom. *See Zurcher v. Stanford Daily*, 436 U.S. 547 (1978).

24 87. And for a recent example, in 2024, Stanford Daily advocated against its reporter’s
25 arrest, highlighting the “violation of his First Amendment and Fourth Amendment rights” and the
26 “threat to the freedom of the press.”
27
28

1 88. Even before filing this suit, Stanford Daily had started advocating against the
2 government's use of the Revocation and Deportation Provisions to punish legally present
3 noncitizens, noting in April 2025 that "student speech, from our own reporters and those we're
4 reporting on, is startlingly chilled" by the government's threats and past enforcement actions.

5 89. Stanford Daily is a voluntary membership organization.

6 90. Everyone who wants to join Stanford Daily is guaranteed a spot.

7 91. Stanford Daily has over 150 identifiable members.

8 92. Stanford Daily's members voluntarily joined the organization to support its mission.

9 93. Stanford Daily's members receive updates about the status of this case from Stanford
10 Daily's leadership. Stanford Daily's members elect seven directors who sit on Stanford Daily's nine-
11 member board. The board represents the interests of Stanford Daily's members and has input on the
12 direction of this case.

13 94. Stanford Daily's members include United States citizens and noncitizens. Some of
14 Stanford Daily's members are noncitizens lawfully present in the United States pursuant to lawful
15 admissions on nonimmigrant visas, such as the F-1 student visa. Other noncitizen members are
16 lawfully present in the United States pursuant to their status as lawful permanent residents on
17 immigrant visas.

18 95. Stanford Daily's members are either editorial members or business members.

19 96. To be considered an editorial member, one must have worked for Stanford Daily for
20 at least two calendar months in the current or most recent fall, winter, or spring academic quarter
21 and demonstrated continued interest and commitment through meeting attendance and/or
22 contributions to Stanford Daily's operations.

23 97. To be considered a business member, one must have worked for Stanford Daily at
24 least two months prior to the date of the approval of the membership list and have worked for an
25 average of five or more hours per week since beginning work at Stanford Daily.

26 98. Stanford Daily's content is produced by Stanford Daily members and contributors.
27
28

1 99. Any individual who submits and has content of any type published in *The Stanford*
2 *Daily* is a contributor. Contributors need not be Stanford Daily members nor Stanford affiliates.
3 Although contributors to *The Stanford Daily* are associated with Stanford Daily, contributors are
4 not necessarily Stanford Daily members.

5 100. Stanford Daily disseminates its content to readers through its website, social media
6 accounts, email digests, and print editions.

7 101. Stanford Daily publishes content on its website, stanforddaily.com. It also publishes
8 content on X (x.com/StanfordDaily), Instagram (instagram.com/stanforddaily/), Facebook
9 (facebook.com/stanforddaily/), YouTube (youtube.com/@stanforddaily/), TikTok
10 (tiktok.com/@stanforddaily), and Spotify (open.spotify.com/show/2ty8gvAnvYP31X8TurFwoj).
11 In the past, Stanford Daily published content on LinkedIn, but it does not currently use that platform.

12 102. Stanford Daily also disseminates its content through two types of email digests. First,
13 it disseminates a Daily Digest that comes out every morning of the school week, providing
14 headlines, descriptions, and links to articles in each of its print sections to offer a general overview
15 of what is happening in the Stanford community. And second, Stanford Daily occasionally
16 disseminates a Breaking News email when an article is deemed by its editorial staff to be sufficiently
17 urgent and important to include in its own email to its subscribers after a story breaks.

18 103. Stanford Daily also disseminates its content by printing *The Stanford Daily*. The
19 newspaper is printed once a week over the academic school year aside from breaks and finals weeks.
20 It is distributed every Friday with content from the past week of publication.

21 104. Because Stanford Daily seeks to cover all relevant news and provide an outlet to the
22 Stanford community to publish opinions, the scope of its content is vast. *The Stanford Daily's*
23 content includes news articles about academics, campus life, data, graduate students, science and
24 technology, and Stanford University; sports articles; opinion articles by columnists, the editorial
25 board, and community members; arts and life articles about culture, music, books, and the screen;
26 humor articles, including cartoons; multimedia content, including videos; games, including mini
27 crosswords, full-size crosswords, and the "Stanfordle" (based on the *New York Times's* "Wordle")
28

1 game); “The Grind,” which welcomes any potential contributors to think deeply about any aspect
2 of their lives and large society they want to explore, whether Stanford related or not; and *The*
3 *Stanford Daily Magazine*, which is published twice per year.

4 105. In line with Stanford Daily’s mission and core business activities, *The Stanford Daily*
5 has endeavored to provide the Stanford community with relevant and unbiased journalism about
6 campus events or issues related to Hamas’s October 7, 2023, attack on Israel and Israel’s war in
7 Gaza.

8 106. Also in line with Stanford Daily’s mission and operations, the newspaper provides a
9 platform for Stanford community members to voice their opinions on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict
10 and other foreign policy issues.

11 107. To support its mission, Stanford Daily covers matters related to foreign affairs, Israel,
12 and Palestine, such as covering student groups like Students for Justice in Palestine, Law Students
13 for Justice in Palestine, and Stanford Israel Association; student events such as the “All Eyes on
14 Gaza” vigil and the “Rally for Hostages” event, both on October 7, 2025; Israel’s detention and
15 deportation of a Stanford alumna who attempted to sail toward Gaza on the Global Sumud Flotilla;
16 Stanford pro-Palestinian protesters being indicted on felony charges; a Stanford chemist suing
17 Stanford University for antisemitism and anti-Israel discrimination; and similar issues.

18 108. Stanford Daily also provides an outlet for people to publish opinions. Some of this
19 content relates to American foreign affairs, Israel, and Palestine, such as opinion pieces about
20 standing in solidarity with the Palestinian cause, opposing Hamas’s actions on October 7, the
21 prosecution of Stanford pro-Palestinian protestors, hunger strikes in support of Palestine, and
22 inviting more pro-Palestinian speakers to campus.

23 109. To support its mission, Stanford Daily has covered this news and provided this outlet
24 for opinions before Hamas’s October 7, 2023, attack on Israel and Israel’s war in Gaza. It has
25 continued to cover news related to foreign affairs, Israel, and Palestine since Israel and Hamas
26 entered a ceasefire and hostage-exchange agreement on October 9, 2025, and it expects to continue
27 covering news and publishing opinions related to foreign affairs, Israel, and Palestine.

1 110. Many Stanford Daily members, including lawfully present noncitizen members, have
2 personally read and are aware of the government's statements and enforcement actions referenced
3 in this Complaint.

4 111. Outside of the litigation documents filed in this case, Stanford Daily members are
5 unaware of any government officials disavowing invoking the Deportation and Revocation
6 Provisions against protected speech.

7 112. The government's threats to enforce and past enforcement of the Revocation and
8 Deportation Provisions, and the threat of those Provisions' future enforcement, have specifically
9 impacted Stanford Daily by causing lawfully present noncitizen members to quit, withhold articles,
10 refuse assignments, request articles be taken down, and ask for anonymity due to fear of adverse
11 immigration consequences under the Deportation and Revocation Provisions. Thus, since the Trump
12 administration began targeting lawfully present noncitizens for deportation based on protected
13 speech in March 2025, lawfully present noncitizen students who are Stanford Daily members have
14 self-censored expression for fear of visa revocation, arrest, detention, and deportation.

15 113. The government's threats to enforce and past enforcement of the Revocation and
16 Deportation Provisions, and the threat of those Provisions' future enforcement, have also
17 specifically impacted Stanford Daily by causing lawfully present noncitizen contributors and
18 sources to refuse to talk on the record with Stanford Daily reporters and stop submitting opinion
19 pieces to *The Stanford Daily*. Thus, since the Trump administration began targeting lawfully present
20 noncitizens for deportation based on protected speech in March 2025, lawfully present noncitizens
21 who are Stanford Daily contributors have self-censored expression for fear of visa revocation, arrest,
22 detention, and deportation.

23 114. For example, in March 2025, a lawfully present noncitizen editor on staff decided to
24 quit Stanford Daily because of the student's nonimmigrant visa status. Fearing visa revocation,
25 arrest, and deportation for association with articles about Israel or Palestine, the student decided to
26 leave the newspaper.

1 115. But for the threat of visa revocation under the Revocation Provision and of
2 deportation under the Deportation Provision, the student would continue being a member of
3 Stanford Daily.

4 116. As another example, one lawfully present noncitizen student on staff signed up to
5 cover a story about a vigil that brought together Jewish and Palestinian families to honor those who
6 died in the conflict in Gaza. The student attended, took notes, and interviewed sources. But because
7 of the student's nonimmigrant visa status and fear that they may face adverse immigration
8 consequences if they published the article, the student decided against publishing the article.

9 117. But for the threat of visa revocation under the Revocation Provision and of
10 deportation under the Deportation Provision, the student would publish the article.

11 118. Similarly, a lawfully present noncitizen editor on staff, fearing adverse immigration
12 consequences, asked Stanford Daily to remove articles they had previously written about pro-
13 Palestinian campus activism and related issues and to no longer assign them to edit stories involving
14 Israel or Palestine.

15 119. But for the threat of visa revocation under the Revocation Provision and of
16 deportation under the Deportation Provision, the editor would republish the article they had taken
17 down and would edit stories involving Israel and Palestine.

18 120. Another lawfully present noncitizen Stanford Daily staff writer, who had written
19 about Israeli and Palestinian officials, as well other foreign affairs topics, asked Stanford Daily to
20 remove all her articles from Stanford Daily's website, fearing adverse immigration consequences.

21 121. But for the threat of visa revocation under the Revocation Provision and of
22 deportation under the Deportation Provision, the staff writer would not have asked Stanford Daily
23 to remove the articles.

24 122. Additionally, a lawfully present noncitizen Stanford Daily editorial board member
25 asked for an article about the Israeli Defense Forces to be removed from the website, fearing adverse
26 immigration consequences.

1 123. But for the threat of visa revocation under the Revocation Provision and of
2 deportation under the Deportation Provision, the editorial board member would not have asked to
3 remove the article.

4 124. Secretary Rubio's use of the Deportation Provision and Revocation Provision to
5 target protected expression has hindered Stanford Daily's journalism in other ways, too. Since the
6 Trump administration began targeting lawfully present noncitizens for deportation based on
7 protected speech in March 2025, Stanford Daily has received numerous requests from lawfully
8 present noncitizens who either wrote or were quoted or pictured in articles to remove their name,
9 image, or article for fear of adverse immigration action based on their speech.

10 125. Since the Trump administration began targeting lawfully present noncitizens for
11 deportation based on protected speech in March 2025, international students have also largely
12 stopped talking to Stanford Daily journalists and, when they do speak, often refuse to speak on the
13 record, particularly when it comes to discussing topics like Israel and Palestine.

14 126. But for the threat of visa revocation under the Revocation Provision and the threat of
15 deportation under the Deportation Provision, international students would resume speaking freely
16 with Stanford Daily.

17 127. Since Secretary Rubio started using the Deportation Provision and Revocation
18 Provision against protected speech, Stanford Daily has received other requests from current and
19 former writers, asking it to remove opinion editorials they published, quotes they provided, or their
20 names in bylines or articles.

21 128. But for the threat of visa revocation under the Revocation Provision and of
22 deportation under the Deportation Provision, the current and former writers would not seek to have
23 their pieces, quotes, or identities removed from the newspaper.

24 129. But for the threat of visa revocation under the Revocation Provision and deportation
25 under the Deportation Provision, Stanford Daily noncitizen contributors would resume contributing
26 articles to Stanford Daily.

1 130. The government's threats to enforce and past enforcement of the Revocation and
2 Deportation Provisions, and the threat of those Provisions' future enforcement, have specifically
3 impacted Stanford Daily by decreasing the quantity and diversity of opinion pieces *The Stanford*
4 *Daily* is able to publish on the conflict between Israel and Palestine. Before the government's threats
5 to enforce and past enforcement of the Revocation and Deportation Provisions, and the threat of
6 those Provisions' future enforcement, Stanford Daily published opinion pieces by noncitizen
7 contributors. But since the government began enforcing the Provisions against protected speech,
8 Stanford Daily has experienced substantially reduced participation from noncitizen contributors.

9 131. The government's threats to enforce and past enforcement of the Revocation and
10 Deportation Provisions, and the threat of those Provisions' future enforcement, have specifically
11 impacted Stanford Daily by affecting the quality of pieces *The Stanford Daily* is able to publish.
12 Before the government's threats to enforce and past enforcement of the Revocation and Deportation
13 Provisions, and the threat of those Provisions' future enforcement, Stanford Daily writers could
14 incorporate a wide variety of sources and quotes into their news articles, including perspectives from
15 international students. But now, legally present noncitizen students no longer want to speak with
16 Stanford Daily as sources or contribute opinion pieces.

17 132. The specific effects of the government's threats to enforce and past enforcement of
18 the Revocation and Deportation Provisions, and the threat of those Provisions' future enforcement,
19 are ongoing.

20 133. Legally present noncitizen Stanford Daily members who have quit, withheld articles,
21 refused assignments, requested articles be taken down, and asked for anonymity have continued to
22 take those actions since this case was filed.

23 134. Legally present noncitizen Stanford Daily members face a credible and imminent
24 threat of adverse immigration action under the Deportation and Revocation Provisions if they
25 engage in constitutionally protected speech based on the government's threats and enforcement of
26 the challenged Provisions.

V. Plaintiff Jane Doe Fears Deportation Due to Her Pro-Palestinian Speech.

135. Plaintiff Jane Doe is a noncitizen lawfully present in the United States pursuant to a lawful admission on an F-1 student visa.

136. Jane Doe is a former student at a United States university.

137. There is no relationship between Stanford Daily and Jane Doe.

138. Jane Doe has never been a student at Stanford University, never submitted to or published content with *The Stanford Daily*, and never affiliated with Stanford Daily.

139. Jane Doe was a member of the pro-Palestinian student group Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) at her university.

140. Jane Doe has published pro-Palestinian/anti-Israel commentary online, including commentary accusing Israel of committing “genocide” and perpetuating “apartheid.” She has also used the slogan, “from the river to the sea, Palestine will be free.”

141. Jane Doe has publicly criticized American foreign policy, particularly its relationship with Israel.

142. Due to her advocacy, Jane Doe appeared in a profile on the Canary Mission website.

143. Canary Mission is an anonymously run website that publishes the personal information of students, professors, and organizations it deems “anti-Israel.”

144. On July 9, 2025, during a trial in the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts, Peter Hatch, a senior official in ICE’s Homeland Security Investigations unit, testified that Derek Gordon, Deputy Special Agent in Charge of Homeland Security Investigations at DHS, asked Hatch to instruct Hatch’s team to generate “reports” on individuals identified on Canary Mission’s website. Trial Tr. vol. 2, 108–10, *Am. Ass’n of Univ. Professors v. Rubio*, No. 25-cv-10685 (D. Mass. July 9, 2025), <https://perma.cc/PCL4-6YTQ>.

145. The “reports” Mr. Hatch’s team prepares are for the State Department, which uses them to make decisions regarding, among other things, “[v]isa revocations.” *Id.* at 101.

146. Mr. Hatch testified that “most” of the names of student protestors that DHS asked ICE to investigate “came from” Canary Mission’s website. *Id.* vol. 1, 44.

1 147. Prior to their detentions and attempted deportations, Canary Mission published
2 profiles of Mahmoud Khalil, Rümeysa Öztürk, and Mohsen Mahdawi.

3 148. In March 2025, Jane Doe read news articles about the detention and attempted
4 deportation of noncitizens like Mahmoud Khalil and Rümeysa Öztürk for engaging in protected pro-
5 Palestinian speech, including articles quoting government statements about the detention and
6 deportation of these noncitizens. Consequently, fearing that Secretary Rubio will revoke her visa
7 under the Revocation Provision or render her deportable under the Deportation Provision, Jane Doe
8 has refrained from publishing and voicing her true opinions regarding Palestine and Israel and has
9 deleted a social media account to guard against retaliation for past expression.

10 149. But for the threat of visa revocation under the Revocation Provision and deportation
11 under the Deportation Provision, Jane Doe would resume publishing and voicing her true opinions
12 regarding Palestine and Israel and would reactivate her social media account containing her past
13 expression.

14 150. Jane Doe has personally read and is aware of government statements threatening visa
15 revocation and deportation under the Revocation and Deportation Provisions for engaging in
16 protected speech, including the government's statements referenced in this Complaint or
17 substantially similar statements, and, based on those statements, fears adverse immigration action
18 for engaging in protected speech.

19 151. Jane Doe is personally aware of the government's past enforcement of the
20 Deportation and Revocation Provisions based on protected speech against pro-Palestinian
21 individuals such as Mahmoud Khalil, Rümeysa Öztürk, and Mohsen Mahdawi.

22 152. Jane Doe is aware of the government's recent enforcement of the Deportation and
23 Revocation Provisions against noncitizens who voiced criticism of Charlie Kirk.

24 153. Jane Doe is unaware of any government officials tasked with enforcing the
25 Revocation and Deportation Provisions disavowing invoking the Provisions against protected
26 speech.

1 154. Because of the government's threats to enforce the Revocation and Deportation
2 Provisions based on protected speech, and its past enforcement of the Provisions based on protected
3 speech, Jane Doe has self-censored, including decreasing or eliminating her expression supporting
4 Palestinians, criticizing American foreign policy, or opposing the Israeli government.

5 155. Specifically, because of the government's threats and its past enforcement, Jane Doe
6 no longer attends pro-Palestinian protests, no longer wears a keffiyeh to support the Palestinian
7 cause, no longer engages in direct-action organizing supporting Palestinians, no longer holds up the
8 Palestinian flag, no longer maintains her main social media account, and no longer posts pro-
9 Palestinian content on her other social media accounts. The only public expression in which Jane
10 Doe now engages to support the Palestinian cause is wearing watermelon earrings that are easily
11 removable. (Watermelons share the same colors as the Palestinian flag, and pro-Palestinian speakers
12 often use the symbol to support the Palestinian cause.) The government's threats to enforce the
13 Revocation and Deportation Provisions based on protected speech, and its past enforcement of the
14 Provisions based on protected speech, have chilled Jane Doe from engaging in every other form of
15 public expression.

16 156. The chilling effect of the government's threats to enforce and its past enforcement of
17 the Revocation and Deportation Provisions based on protected speech, and the threat of those
18 Provisions' future enforcement, on Jane Doe has continued since she filed this lawsuit and will
19 continue unless judicial relief is secured.

20 157. Based on the government's threats to enforce and its enforcement of the challenged
21 Provisions, Jane Doe faces a credible and imminent threat of adverse immigration action under the
22 Deportation and Revocation Provisions if she engages in constitutionally protected speech.

23 **VI. John Doe Fears Adverse Immigration Action for His Protected Speech.**

24 158. Plaintiff John Doe is a noncitizen lawfully present in the United States pursuant to a
25 lawful admission on an F-1 student visa. John Doe traveled to the United States to study journalism,
26 and a primary reason he chose the United States is its strong protection for freedom of speech and
27 freedom of the press.

159. John Doe is a former student at a United States university.

160. There is no relationship between Stanford Daily and John Doe.

161. John Doe has never been a student at Stanford University, never submitted to or published content with *The Stanford Daily*, and never affiliated with Stanford Daily.

162. After the October 7, 2023, attack, John Doe attended pro-Palestinian protests and published pro-Palestinian/anti-Israel commentary online.

163. At protests, John Doe participated in chants including, “[f]rom the river to the sea, Palestine will be free,” chants accusing Israel of committing “genocide,” and chants calling Israel a “terrorist state.”

164. After the Trump administration began targeting other lawfully present noncitizen students for deportation based on protected speech, the professor for whom John Doe served as a teaching assistant advised John Doe to reconsider engaging in protected advocacy related to Israel and Palestine due to potential danger to his immigration status.

165. In March 2025, John Doe read news articles about the detention and attempted deportation of noncitizens like Mahmoud Khalil and Badar Khan Suri for engaging in protected pro-Palestinian speech, including articles quoting government statements about the detention and deportation of these noncitizens. Consequently, fearing Secretary Rubio would revoke his visa under the Revocation Provision or render him deportable under the Deportation Provision, John Doe refrained from publishing his findings containing criticism of Israel’s actions in Gaza, which John Doe views as a genocide backed by the United States’ foreign policy.

166. But for the threat of visa revocation under the Revocation Provision and deportation under the Deportation Provision, John Doe would have published and voiced his true opinions regarding Palestine and Israel without delay or fear of arrest, detention, or deportation for his protected speech.

167. John Doe has resumed engaging in some protected pro-Palestinian/anti-Israel commentary, including accusing Israel of committing genocide, as well as commentary critical of American foreign policy towards Israel and Palestine. His continuing expression places him in

1 danger of visa revocation under the Revocation Provision and deportation under the Deportation
2 Provision.

3 168. The government's threats to enforce and its past enforcement of the Revocation and
4 Deportation Provisions based on protected speech have caused John Doe to alter and reduce his pro-
5 Palestinian/anti-Israel protected expression because the threat of those Provisions' future
6 enforcement.

7 169. For example, John Doe has made his X social media account, which contains pro-
8 Palestinian/anti-Israel commentary, private.

9 170. Additionally, because of the Trump administration's tactics when pursuing
10 noncitizens for protected speech, which include midnight raids, masked ICE agents, and detention
11 thousands of miles from home, some members of John Doe's extended family who are noncitizens
12 but lawfully reside in the United States fear associating with him and have substantially reduced
13 their contact with him because they fear he will be targeted by the Trump administration because of
14 his pro-Palestinian/anti-Israel commentary and advocacy.

15 171. Additionally, fearing adverse immigration consequences, John Doe avoids wearing
16 "Palestinian Youth Movement" apparel including a sweatshirt with "Gaza, the Occupier's
17 Graveyard" written in Arabic:



1 172. John Doe has personally read and is aware of government statements threatening visa
2 revocation and deportation under the Revocation and Deportation Provisions for engaging in
3 protected speech, including the government's statements referenced in this Complaint or
4 substantially similar statements, and, based on those statements, fears adverse immigration action
5 for engaging in protected speech.

6 173. John Doe is personally aware of the government's past enforcement of the
7 Deportation and Revocation Provisions against pro-Palestinian individuals such as Mahmoud
8 Khalil, Rümeysa Öztürk, Badar Khan Suri, and Mohsen Mahdawi.

9 174. John Doe is aware of the government's recent enforcement of the Deportation and
10 Revocation Provisions against noncitizens who voiced criticism of Charlie Kirk.

11 175. John Doe is unaware of any government officials tasked with enforcing the
12 Revocation and Deportation Provisions disavowing invoking the Provisions against protected
13 speech.

14 176. Because of the government's threats to enforce the Revocation and Deportation
15 Provisions based on protected speech, and its past enforcement of the Provisions based on protected
16 speech, John Doe has self-censored, including decreasing his expression supporting Palestinians,
17 criticizing American foreign policy, and opposing the Israeli government.

18 177. Based on the government's threats to enforce and its enforcement of the challenged
19 Provisions, John Doe faces a credible and imminent threat of adverse immigration action under the
20 Deportation and Revocation Provisions when he engages in constitutionally protected speech.

21 178. Because John Doe faces a credible and imminent threat of adverse immigration
22 action under the Deportation and Revocation Provisions when he engages in constitutionally
23 protected speech, he has reduced and limited his protected expression. But because he agrees with
24 George Orwell that "[i]f liberty means anything at all, it means the right to tell people what they do
25 not want to hear," he continues some of his constitutionally protected speech despite that threat.

INJURIES TO PLAINTIFFS

179. Secretary Rubio and Secretary Noem violate Plaintiffs' First Amendment rights by enforcing the Deportation Provision and Revocation Provision based on protected expression, the threatened enforcement of which chills Plaintiffs and/or their lawfully present noncitizen members from engaging in protected expression like attending protests, using certain slogans, and publicly voicing their true views about American foreign policy, Israel, and Palestine.

180. The chill is amplified because Secretary Rubio and Secretary Noem's enforcement of the Deportation Provision and Revocation Provision has entailed ambush arrests by masked agents accompanied by prolonged detention in ICE holding facilities thousands of miles from detainees' homes.

181. Secretary Rubio and Secretary Noem have enforced the Deportation Provision and Revocation Provision based on protected expression and will continue to do so absent declaratory and injunctive relief prohibiting enforcement of these statutes based on protected expression.

182. "The loss of First Amendment freedoms, for even minimal periods of time, unquestionably constitutes irreparable injury." *Roman Cath. Diocese of Brooklyn v. Cuomo*, 592 U.S. 14, 19 (2020) (quoting *Elrod v. Burns*, 427 U.S. 347, 373 (1976) (plurality op.)).

183. Plaintiffs have suffered and continue to suffer irreparable harm due to the Deportation Provision's and Revocation Provision's enforcements based on protected expression, which will continue absent declaratory and prospective injunctive relief.

184. Because Plaintiffs and their lawfully present noncitizen members have engaged and wish to continue engaging in expression which Secretary Rubio might consider anti-American, anti-Israel, or detrimental to American foreign policy, they face an ongoing and credible threat of continued enforcement of the Deportation Provision and Revocation Provision.

185. Secretary Rubio and Secretary Noem's ongoing threat to the protected expression of Plaintiffs and their members presents an actual controversy within this Court's jurisdiction.

FIRST CLAIM

First Amendment

Deportation Provision
(Declaratory Relief)

186. Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate by reference the preceding paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.

187. The First Amendment provides “Congress shall make no law ... abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or of the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.” U.S. Const. amend. I.

188. America’s First Amendment reflects “a profound national commitment to the principle that debate on public issues should be uninhibited, robust, and wide-open.” *N.Y. Times Co. v. Sullivan*, 376 U.S. 254, 270 (1964).

189. Political protests are an exercise of “basic constitutional rights in their most pristine and classic form.” *Edwards v. South Carolina*, 372 U.S. 229, 235 (1963).

190. The “advocacy of a politically controversial viewpoint is the essence of First Amendment expression,” and “no form of speech is entitled to greater constitutional protection.” *McCullen v. Coakley*, 573 U.S. 464, 488–89 (2014) (cleaned up).

191. A free press “serves and was designed to serve as a powerful antidote to any abuses of power by government officials and as a constitutionally chosen means for keeping officials elected by the people responsible to all the people whom they were selected to serve.” *Mills v. Alabama*, 384 U.S. 214, 219 (1966).

192. To that end, “[s]uppression of the right of the press to praise or criticize government agents and to clamor and contend for or against change ... muzzles one of the very agencies the Framers of our Constitution thoughtfully and deliberately selected to improve our society and keep it free.” *Id.*

193. A press/communication platform’s own rights are infringed when its contributors are chilled. *Simon & Schuster, Inc. v. Members of N.Y. State Crime Victims Bd.*, 502 U.S. 105, 121–23 (1991).

1 194. The Supreme Court has made clear that “freedom of speech and of press is accorded
2 aliens residing in this country.” *Wixon*, 326 U.S. at 148.

3 195. “It has long been recognized that resident aliens enjoy the protections of the First
4 Amendment.” *Price v. U.S. INS*, 962 F.2d 836, 841 (9th Cir. 1991).

5 196. The INA allows the Secretary of State to render deportable noncitizens “whose ...
6 activities in the United States the Secretary of State has reasonable ground to believe would have
7 potentially serious adverse foreign policy consequences for the United States.” 8 U.S.C.
8 § 1227(a)(4)(C)(i).

9 197. That deportation authority is subject to “[t]he exceptions” to the Secretary of State’s
10 authority to exclude noncitizens from the United States on foreign policy grounds. *Id.*
11 § 1227(a)(4)(C)(ii) (incorporating *id.* § 1182(a)(3)(C)(ii)–(iii)).

12 198. Those exceptions include that a noncitizen “shall not be excludable [for protected
13 speech], unless the Secretary of State personally determines that the alien’s admission would
14 compromise a compelling United States foreign policy interest.” *Id.* § 1182(a)(3)(C)(iii).

15 199. The Deportation Provision, therefore, allows the Secretary of State to render lawfully
16 present noncitizens deportable for protected speech if he “personally determines” that the
17 noncitizen’s activities “compromise a compelling United States foreign policy interest.” *Id.*
18 §§ 1182(a)(3)(C)(iii), 1227(a)(4)(C)(i).

19 200. When the government determines that a noncitizen is no longer lawfully in the United
20 States through operation of the Deportation Provision, immigration officers may obtain a warrant to
21 arrest and detain the noncitizen pending completing of removal proceedings. *See id.* § 1226(a);
22 8 C.F.R. § 287.8(c).

23 201. Detention and/or deportation would deter a person of ordinary firmness from
24 engaging in protected activity.

25 202. As a result of the Deportation Provision, lawfully present noncitizens must either
26 forego protected expression or risk detention and deportation.

1 203. As applied to protected speech, the Deportation Provision is facially viewpoint based
2 and content based because it applies solely to speech the government believes adversely affects its
3 foreign policy.

4 204. The government “may not discriminate against speech based on the ideas or opinions
5 it conveys.” *Iancu v. Brunetti*, 588 U.S. 388, 393 (2019).

6 205. “Viewpoint discrimination is thus an egregious form of content discrimination”
7 because “[t]he government must abstain from regulating speech when the specific motivating
8 ideology or the opinion or perspective of the speaker is the rationale for the restriction.” *Rosenberger*
9 *v. Rector & Visitors of Univ. of Va.*, 515 U.S. 819, 829 (1995).

10 206. The Deportation Provision is facially viewpoint discriminatory as applied to
11 protected speech for two reasons. First, it affords the Secretary of State unbounded discretion to
12 render lawfully present noncitizens deportable on the basis of protected speech. Second, opinions
13 the Secretary deems in his sole discretion adverse to America’s foreign policy subject noncitizens
14 to potential deportation, while those he views as aligning with or praising American foreign policy
15 do not.

16 207. Secretary Rubio and the Trump administration’s enforcement of the Deportation
17 Provision demonstrates the Deportation Provision’s viewpoint-discriminatory nature as applied to
18 protected speech.

19 208. For example, the basis for Secretary Rubio’s determination that Mr. Khalil’s
20 protected expression regarding Israel and Palestine triggered the Deportation Provision is that
21 Secretary Rubio believed Mr. Khalil’s opinions and expression “undermine[d] U.S. policy to
22 combat anti-Semitism around the world and in the United States.”

23 209. The basis for Secretary Rubio’s determination that Mr. Mahdawi’s protected speech
24 regarding Israel and Palestine triggered the Deportation Provision is that Secretary Rubio believed
25 Mr. Mahdawi’s opinions and expression undermined the government’s position regarding the
26 Middle East peace process.

210. Laws discriminating based on viewpoint are per se unconstitutional. *See Iancu*, 588 U.S. at 399 (“The Court’s finding of viewpoint bias ended the matter.”)

211. In the alternative, viewpoint-discriminatory laws are subject to strict scrutiny.

212. The First Amendment also generally forbids government actions that discriminate based on the content of the speaker’s expression. “Content-based laws—those that target speech based on its communicative content—are presumptively unconstitutional and may be justified only if the government proves that they are narrowly tailored to serve compelling state interests.” *Reed v. Town of Gilbert*, 576 U.S. 155, 163 (2015). “Government regulation of speech is content based if a law applies to particular speech because of the topic discussed or the idea or message expressed.” *Id.* Content-discriminatory laws are subject to strict scrutiny. *Id.* at 163–64.

213. The Deportation Provision is not narrowly tailored to achieve a compelling government interest with respect to deportations based on protected speech.

214. Restricting speech to tilt public debate and opinion in the government’s preferred direction “is not [a] valid, let alone substantial” government interest. *Moody v. NetChoice, LLC*, 603 U.S. 707, 740 (2024).

215. Nor is the Deportation Provision’s allowance for deportation based on protected speech narrowly tailored. It vests the Secretary of State with unbounded, unbridled, and unconstrained discretion to deem any noncitizen’s protected speech a foreign policy threat and to banish the speaker from the United States on that basis.

216. The Deportation Provision’s allowance for deportation based on protected speech is not the least restrictive means of advancing the government’s foreign policy objectives because, at minimum, the government can counter the noncitizen’s speech with its own speech.

217. The “First Amendment prohibits government officials from retaliating against individuals for engaging in protected speech.” *Lozman v. Riviera Beach*, 585 U.S. 87, 90 (2018).

218. By allowing the Secretary of State to render lawfully present noncitizens deportable for protected speech about America’s foreign policy, the Deportation Provision also blatantly

discriminates based on viewpoint by codifying the ability of the government to take adverse action against protected speech by targeting its foreign policy critics with deportation.

219. Deporting someone for protected speech would deter and is deterring people of ordinary firmness from engaging in protected speech.

220. Plaintiffs are entitled to a declaration under 28 U.S.C. § 2201 that the Deportation Provision is viewpoint and content based when applied to protected speech and that the First Amendment prohibits deporting Plaintiffs and/or their noncitizen members under it for engaging in protected speech.

SECOND CLAIM

First Amendment

Deportation Provision

(Injunctive Relief)

221. Plaintiffs re-allege and re-incorporate the preceding paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.

222. The Deportation Provision violates the First Amendment for the reasons stated in Claim I.

223. Plaintiffs are entitled to injunctive relief preventing Secretary Rubio from rendering Plaintiffs and/or their noncitizen members deportable under the Deportation Provision for engaging in protected speech. *See Bell v. Hood*, 327 U.S. 678, 684 (1946) (“[I]t is established practice for this Court to sustain the jurisdiction of federal courts to issue injunctions to protect rights safeguarded by the Constitution.”); *see also Ex parte Young*, 209 U.S. 123 (1908).

224. Plaintiffs are entitled to injunctive relief preventing Secretary Noem from initiating deportation proceedings against or otherwise invoking the Deportation Provision against Plaintiffs and/or their noncitizen members based on protected speech. *See Bell*, 327 U.S. at 684; *Ex parte Young*, 209 U.S. 123.

225. Plaintiffs have no adequate legal, administrative, or other remedy by which to prevent or minimize the continuing irreparable harm to their First Amendment rights. Without

injunctive relief against the Deportation Provision as applied to protected speech, Secretary Rubio’s suppression and chill of Plaintiffs’ First Amendment rights will continue, and Plaintiffs will suffer per se irreparable harm indefinitely.

226. The balance of equities and the public interest favor permanent injunctive relief because “it is always in the public interest to prevent the violation of a party’s constitutional rights.” *X Corp. v. Bonta*, 116 F.4th 888, 904 (9th Cir. 2024) (internal quotation marks omitted).

227. Plaintiffs acknowledge that, under 8 U.S.C. § 1252(f)(1), only the Supreme Court has jurisdiction to “enjoin or restrain the operation” of the Deportation Provision. Plaintiffs therefore plead the request for injunctive relief so it is contained in the operative pleading and may be raised to the Supreme Court in later proceedings.

THIRD CLAIM

Fifth Amendment (Vagueness)

Deportation Provision

(Declaratory Relief)

228. Plaintiffs re-allege and re-incorporate the preceding paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.

229. The Due Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution prohibits laws, including immigration statutes, that are impermissibly vague. *Sessions*, 584 U.S. at 174–75 (majority op.).

230. A law is unconstitutionally vague when it “fails to provide a person of ordinary intelligence fair notice of what is prohibited” or “is so standardless that it authorizes or encourages seriously discriminatory enforcement.” *FCC v. Fox Television Stations, Inc.*, 567 U.S. 239, 253 (2012) (quoting *United States v. Williams*, 553 U.S. 285, 304 (2008)).

231. Because deportation is a “drastic measure, often amounting to lifelong banishment or exile,” the “most exacting vagueness standard” applicable to criminal laws also applies to immigration laws. *Sessions*, 584 U.S. at 156–57 (plurality op.) (cleaned up).

1 232. Moreover, when a regulation “is capable of reaching expression sheltered by the First
2 Amendment,” the vagueness doctrine “demands a greater degree of specificity than in other
3 contexts.” *Smith v. Goguen*, 415 U.S. 566, 573 (1974).

4 233. The Deportation Provision is vague on its face as applied to protected speech because
5 it provides no guidance to noncitizens regarding when a person’s expression would “compromise a
6 compelling United States foreign policy interest.” 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(3)(C)(iii).

7 234. The Deportation Provision is also vague on its face as applied to protected speech
8 because it provides standardless, limitless discretion to government officials charged with its
9 enforcement regarding when a person’s expression would “compromise a compelling United States
10 foreign policy interest.”

11 235. The Deportation Provision is also vague on its face as applied to protected speech
12 because it authorizes arbitrary and discriminatory enforcement, granting the Secretary of State
13 unfettered and unreviewable discretion to arbitrarily enforce the Deportation Provision based on his
14 own subjective determination of what will compromise or adversely affect foreign policy.

15 236. The Deportation Provision is also vague on its face as applied to protected speech
16 because the United States’ foreign policy interests are vast, ever-changing, and often kept
17 confidential from the public. *See Massieu v. Reno*, 915 F. Supp. 681, 700–03 (D.N.J.) (concluding
18 8 U.S.C. § 1227(a)(4)(C)(i) is void for vagueness), *rev’d on other grounds*, 91 F.3d 416 (3d Cir.
19 1996).

20 237. Plaintiffs are entitled to a declaration under 28 U.S.C. § 2201 that the Deportation
21 Provision is void for vagueness under the Fifth Amendment as applied to deportations based on
22 protected speech and that the Fifth Amendment prohibits deporting Plaintiffs and/or their noncitizen
23 members under the Deportation Provision for engaging in protected speech.

FOURTH CLAIM

Fifth Amendment (Vagueness)

Deportation Provision

(Injunctive Relief)

238. Plaintiffs re-allege and re-incorporate the preceding paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.

239. The Deportation Provision is unconstitutionally void for vagueness under the Fifth Amendment as applied to deportations based on protected speech for the reasons stated in Claim III.

240. Plaintiffs are entitled to injunctive relief preventing Secretary Rubio from rendering Plaintiffs and/or their noncitizen members deportable under the Deportation Provision based on protected speech. *See Bell*, 327 U.S. at 684; *Ex parte Young*, 209 U.S. 123.

241. Plaintiffs are entitled to injunctive relief preventing Secretary Noem from initiating deportation proceedings against or otherwise invoking the Deportation Provision against Plaintiffs and/or their noncitizen members based on protected speech. *See Bell*, 327 U.S. at 684; *Ex parte Young*, 209 U.S. 123.

242. Plaintiffs have no adequate legal, administrative, or other remedy by which to prevent or minimize the continuing irreparable harm to their First and Fifth Amendment rights. Without injunctive relief against the Deportation Provision as applied to protected speech, Secretary Rubio's suppression and chill of Plaintiffs' First Amendment rights will continue, and Plaintiffs will suffer per se irreparable harm indefinitely.

243. The balance of equities and the public interest favor permanent injunctive relief because "it is always in the public interest to prevent the violation of a party's constitutional rights." *X Corp.*, 116 F.4th at 904 (internal quotation marks omitted).

244. Plaintiffs acknowledge that, under 8 U.S.C. § 1252(f)(1), only the Supreme Court has jurisdiction to "enjoin or restrain the operation" of the Deportation Provision. Plaintiffs therefore plead the request for injunctive relief so it is contained in the operative pleading and may be raised to the Supreme Court in later proceedings.

FIFTH CLAIM

First Amendment

Revocation Provision

(Declaratory Relief)

245. Plaintiffs re-allege and re-incorporate the preceding paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.

246. Subjecting noncitizens to adverse immigration action for protected speech violates the First Amendment for the reasons stated in Claim I.

247. The Revocation Provision, 8 U.S.C. § 1201(i), provides that “[a]fter the issuance of a visa or other documentation to any alien, the ... Secretary of State may at any time, in his discretion, revoke such visa or other documentation.”

248. The Revocation Provision allows the Secretary of State to revoke a “visa or other documentation” based on protected speech.

249. For example, Secretary Rubio used the Revocation Provision to revoke Rümeysa Öztürk’s visa based on her protected speech of coauthoring an article for *The Tufts Daily* newspaper, and he committed to revoking visas of other lawfully present noncitizens in the future based on protected speech.

250. The “First Amendment prohibits government officials from retaliating against individuals for engaging in protected speech.” *Lozman*, 585 U.S. at 90.

251. Revoking the visa or other documentation of a noncitizen would deter and is deterring people of ordinary firmness from engaging in protected speech.

252. Revocations of visas and other documents for protected speech necessarily rely on viewpoint or content discrimination, because the Secretary of State is singling out particular expression for disfavored treatment, making the Revocation Provision subject to strict scrutiny as applied to protected speech.

253. Restricting speech to tilt public debate and opinion about American foreign policy and silence views contrary to the current government's foreign policy "is not [a] valid, let alone substantial" government interest. *Moody*, 603 U.S. at 740.

254. The Revocation Provision, as applied to protected speech, is not narrowly tailored because it vests the Secretary of State with unbounded, unbridled, and unconstrained discretion to revoke visas and other documentation based on protected speech for whatever reason the Secretary personally deems sufficient.

255. The Revocation Provision, as applied to protected speech, is not the least restrictive means of advancing the government's objectives because, at minimum, the government can counter the noncitizen's speech with its own speech.

256. Plaintiffs are entitled to a declaration under 28 U.S.C. § 2201 that the First Amendment prohibits revoking the visa or other documentation of Plaintiffs or their noncitizen members under the Revocation Provision based on protected speech.

SIXTH CLAIM

First Amendment

Revocation Provision

(Injunctive Relief)

257. Plaintiffs re-allege and re-incorporate the preceding paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.

258. Revoking noncitizens' visas or other documentation based on protected speech violates the First Amendment for the reasons stated in Claim V.

259. Plaintiffs are entitled to injunctive relief preventing Secretary Rubio from revoking the visas or other documentation of Plaintiffs and/or their noncitizen members under the Revocation Provision based on protected speech. *See Bell*, 327 U.S. at 684; *Ex parte Young*, 209 U.S. 123.

260. Plaintiffs are entitled to injunctive relief preventing Secretary Noem from initiating deportation proceedings against Plaintiffs and/or their noncitizen members based on visas revoked

1 under the Revocation Provision for engaging in protected speech. *See Bell*, 327 U.S. at 684; *Ex parte*
 2 *Young*, 209 U.S. 123.

3 261. Plaintiffs have no adequate legal, administrative, or other remedy by which to
 4 prevent or minimize the continuing irreparable harm to their First Amendment rights. Without
 5 injunctive relief against the Revocation Provision as applied to protected speech, Secretary Rubio's
 6 suppression and chill of Plaintiffs' First Amendment rights will continue, and Plaintiffs will suffer
 7 per se irreparable harm indefinitely.

8 262. The balance of equities and the public interest favor permanent injunctive relief
 9 because "it is always in the public interest to prevent the violation of a party's constitutional rights."
 10 *X Corp.*, 116 F.4th at 904 (internal quotation marks omitted).

11 263. The Revocation Provision is not subject to Section 1252(f)'s bar on injunctive relief
 12 because it falls outside "the provisions of part IV of this subchapter [8 U.S.C. §§ 1221–1232]." 8
 13 U.S.C. 1252(f)(1).

14 SEVENTH CLAIM

15 Fifth Amendment (Vagueness)

16 Revocation Provision

17 (Declaratory Relief)

18 264. Plaintiffs re-allege and re-incorporate the preceding paragraphs as though fully set
 19 forth herein.

20 265. For the reasons stated in Claim III, the Fifth Amendment prohibits vague laws that
 21 fail to give the public notice of what is required or lack standards to prevent arbitrary or
 22 discriminatory enforcement.

23 266. The Revocation Provision is unconstitutionally vague as applied to protected speech
 24 because it provides noncitizens no notice of what protected expression could trigger the revocation
 25 of their visa or other documentation.

26 267. The Revocation Provision is also vague on its face as applied to protected speech,
 27 because it provides limitless discretion to government officials charged with its enforcement

1 regarding when a noncitizen's protected speech provides a basis revoke a visa or other
2 documentation.

3 268. The Revocation Provision is also unconstitutionally vague as applied to protected
4 speech because it provides no guidance to government officials charged with its enforcement
5 regarding when a noncitizen's expression should trigger revocation of a visa or other documentation.

6 269. The Revocation Provision is also unconstitutionally vague as applied to protected
7 speech because it authorizes arbitrary and discriminatory enforcement by granting the Secretary of
8 State and subordinate officials unfettered and unreviewable authority to revoke a visa "at any time,
9 in his discretion." 8 U.S.C. § 1201(i).

10 270. Plaintiffs are entitled to a declaration under 28 U.S.C. § 2201 that the Fifth
11 Amendment prohibits revoking the visa or other documentation of Plaintiffs or their noncitizen
12 members under the Revocation Provision based on protected speech.

13 **EIGHTH CLAIM**

14 **Fifth Amendment**

15 **Discretionary Revocation Provision**

16 **(Injunctive Relief)**

17 271. Plaintiffs re-allege and re-incorporate the preceding paragraphs as though fully set
18 forth herein.

19 272. The Revocation Provision is unconstitutionally void for vagueness under the Fifth
20 Amendment as applied to revocations of visas or other documentation based on protected speech
21 for the reasons stated in Claim VII.

22 273. Plaintiffs are entitled to injunctive relief preventing Secretary Rubio from revoking
23 visas or other documentation of Plaintiffs and/or their noncitizen members under the Revocation
24 Provision based on protected speech. *See Bell*, 327 U.S. at 684; *Ex parte Young*, 209 U.S. 123.

25 274. Plaintiffs are entitled to injunctive relief preventing Secretary Noem from initiating
26 deportation proceedings against Plaintiffs and/or their noncitizen members based on visas revoked
27

1 under the Revocation Provision for engaging in protected speech. *See Bell*, 327 U.S. at 684; *Ex parte*
 2 *Young*, 209 U.S. 123.

3 275. Plaintiffs have no adequate legal, administrative, or other remedy by which to
 4 prevent or minimize the continuing irreparable harm to their First Amendment rights. Without
 5 injunctive relief against the Revocation Provision as applied to protected speech, Secretary Rubio’s
 6 suppression and chill of Plaintiffs’ First Amendment rights will continue, and Plaintiffs will suffer
 7 per se irreparable harm indefinitely.

8 276. The balance of equities and the public interest favor permanent injunctive relief
 9 because “it is always in the public interest to prevent the violation of a party’s constitutional rights.”
 10 *X Corp.*, 116 F.4th at 904 (internal quotation marks omitted).

11 277. The Revocation Provision is not subject to Section 1252(f)’s bar on injunctive relief
 12 because it falls outside “the provisions of part IV of this subchapter [8 U.S.C. §§ 1221–1232].” 8
 13 U.S.C. 1252(f)(1).

14 PRAYER FOR RELIEF

15 WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs respectfully request that this Court enter judgment against
 16 Defendants in their official capacities and issue the following relief:

17 A. Declare that the First Amendment prohibits deporting Plaintiffs and/or their
 18 noncitizen members under the Deportation Provision³ for engaging in protected speech;⁴

19 B. Declare that, as to Plaintiffs and/or their noncitizen members, the Deportation
 20 Provision is void for vagueness under the Fifth Amendment as applied to deportations based on
 21 protected speech;

22
 23
 24
 25 ³ As used in the Prayer for Relief, “Deportation Provision” has the same meaning as in
 26 Paragraph Seven above.

27 ⁴ To be clear, Plaintiffs’ lawsuit does not challenge the Secretary’s separate exclusion authority
 28 under 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(3)(C)(iii). Plaintiffs’ challenge is solely to 8 U.S.C. § 1227(a)(4)(C)(i) as
 applied to the initiation of deportation proceedings based on protected speech.

1 C. A preliminary and permanent injunction prohibiting Secretary Rubio from rendering
 2 Plaintiffs and/or their noncitizen members deportable under the Deportation Provision based on
 3 protected speech;⁵

4 D. A preliminary and permanent injunction prohibiting Secretary Noem from initiating
 5 deportation proceedings or otherwise invoking the Deportation Provision against Plaintiffs and/or
 6 their noncitizen members based on protected speech;

7 E. Declare that the First Amendment prohibits revoking the visas or other
 8 documentation of Plaintiffs and/or their noncitizen members under the Revocation Provision⁶ based
 9 on protected speech;

10 F. Declare that as to Plaintiffs and/or their noncitizen members, the Revocation
 11 Provision is void for vagueness under the Fifth Amendment as applied to revocations of visas or
 12 other documentation based on protected speech;

13 G. A preliminary and permanent injunction prohibiting Secretary Rubio from revoking
 14 the visas or other documentation of Plaintiffs and/or their noncitizens members under the
 15 Revocation Provision for engaging in protected speech;⁷

16 H. A preliminary and permanent injunction prohibiting Secretary Noem from initiating
 17 deportation proceedings against Plaintiffs and/or their noncitizen members based on visas revoked
 18 under the Revocation Provision for engaging in protected speech;

19
 20
 21 ⁵ Plaintiffs acknowledge that, under 8 U.S.C. § 1252(f), only the Supreme Court has jurisdiction
 22 to “enjoin or restrain the operation” of the Deportation Provision. Plaintiffs therefore plead the
 23 request for injunctive relief so it is contained in the operative pleading and may be raised to the
 24 Supreme Court in later proceedings. Section 1252(f) does not, however, constrain this Court’s
 ability to enjoin the Revocation Provision or render declaratory relief regarding the constitutionality
 of the Deportation Provision as to Plaintiffs and their noncitizen members. *See Biden v. Texas*, 597
 U.S. 785, 800–01 (2022).

25 ⁶ As used in the Prayer for Relief, “Revocation Provision” has the same meaning as in Paragraph
 26 Seven above.

27 ⁷ The Revocation Provision is not subject to Section 1252(f)’s bar on injunctive relief because
 28 it falls outside “the provisions of part IV of this subchapter [8 U.S.C. §§ 1221–1232].” 8 U.S.C.
 1252(f)(1).

1 I. Award reasonable attorneys' fees and costs under 28 U.S.C. § 2412(b) and any other
2 applicable law; and

3 J. Award such other relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

4 Dated: December 4, 2025

Respectfully Submitted,

5 /s/ Marc Van Der Hout

/s/ Conor T. Fitzpatrick

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VERIFICATION OF GRETA REICH

Under 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I, Greta Reich, declare as follows:

1. I am the president of The Stanford Daily Publishing Corporation ("Stanford Daily") and editor-in-chief of *The Stanford Daily*.
2. I am an officer of Stanford Daily and am authorized by the corporation to act on its behalf.
3. I have read the foregoing Verified Complaint for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief.
4. I have personal knowledge of the factual allegations in paragraphs 15–16 and 81–134 of the Verified Complaint and know them to be true.
5. I verify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on December 4, 2025.


Greta Reich

VERIFICATION OF JANE DOE

Under 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I, Jane Doe, declare as follows:

1. I am a Plaintiff in the present case.
2. I have read the foregoing Verified Complaint for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief.
3. I have personal knowledge of the factual allegations in paragraphs 17 (as to the allegations concerning my immigration status, my speech, and the impact of the challenged provisions on my speech), 135–142, and 148–157 of the Verified Complaint and know them to be true.
4. I verify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on December 4, 2025.


Jane Doe

VERIFICATION OF JOHN DOE

Under 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I, John Doe, declare as follows:

1. I am a Plaintiff in the present case.
2. I have read the foregoing Verified Complaint for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief.
3. I have personal knowledge of the factual allegations in paragraphs 18 and 158–178 of the Verified Complaint and know them to be true.
4. I verify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on December 4, 2025.



John Doe

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**~~Pro~~Admitted pro hac vice-application
fortheoming*

Counsel for Plaintiffs

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN JOSE DIVISION**

THE STANFORD DAILY PUBLISHING
CORPORATION, JANE DOE, and JOHN
DOE,

Plaintiffs,

v.

MARCO RUBIO, in his official capacity as
Secretary of State, and

KRISTI NOEM, in her official capacity as
Secretary of Homeland Security,

Defendants.

Case No. 5:25-cv-06618

**VERIFIED AMENDED COMPLAINT FOR
DECLARATORY AND INJUNCTIVE
RELIEF**

1 “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are
2 endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and
3 the pursuit of Happiness.”

4 INTRODUCTION

5 1. In the United States of America, no one should fear a midnight knock on the door for
6 voicing the wrong opinion. That is because America’s founding principle, core to who and what we
7 are as a Nation, is that liberty comes not from the benevolent hand of a king, but is an inherent right
8 of every man, woman, and child. American liberty enshrines in the First Amendment the
9 “inalienable human rights” to “think as you will and to speak as you think.” *303 Creative LLC v.*
10 *Elenis*, 600 U.S. 570, 584 (2023) (internal quotation marks omitted).

11 2. But Secretary of State Marco Rubio and the Trump administration are trying to turn
12 the inalienable human right of free speech into a privilege contingent upon the whims of a federal
13 bureaucrat, triggering deportation proceedings against noncitizens residing lawfully in this country
14 for their protected political speech regarding American and Israeli foreign policy. The Secretary of
15 State and the President claim to possess unreviewable statutory authority to deport any lawfully
16 present noncitizen for speech the government deems anti-American or anti-Israel.

17 3. They are wrong. The Federalists tried the same gambit 227 years ago with the Alien
18 Friends Act, which allowed President Adams to deport any noncitizen he deemed dangerous to
19 “peace and safety.” An Act Concerning Aliens, ch. 58, § 1, 1 Stat. 570, 571 (1789) (expired Mar. 3,
20 1801). It was “one of the most notorious laws in our country’s history,” “widely condemned as
21 unconstitutional,” and “may have cost the Federalist Party its existence.” *Sessions v. Dimaya*, 584
22 U.S. 148, 185 (2018) (Gorsuch, J., concurring in part and in judgment).

23 4. 225 years after the Alien Friends Act expired, the danger of nighttime raids on
24 noncitizens for perceived thoughtcrime is reality once more. Secretary Rubio and the Trump
25 administration’s war against noncitizens’ freedom of speech is intended to send an unmistakable
26 message: Watch what you say, or you could be next.

27 5. Message received. At Plaintiff Stanford Daily, the independent, student-run
28 newspaper at Stanford University, writers present on student visas are declining assignments related

1 to the conflict in the Middle East, worried that even reporting on the conflict will endanger their
 2 lawful immigration status. And Plaintiffs Jane Doe and John Doe, lawfully present noncitizens with
 3 no criminal history, have likewise self-censored because of their rational concern about the ongoing
 4 danger of deportation for expression Secretary Rubio deems anti-American or anti-Israel.

5 6. This pall of fear is incompatible with American liberty. Our First Amendment stands
 6 as a bulwark against the government infringing the inalienable human right to think and speak for
 7 yourself. That is why the Supreme Court held over 80 years ago that “[f]reedom of speech and of
 8 press is accorded aliens residing in this country.” *Bridges v. Wixon*, 326 U.S. 135, 148 (1945). Our
 9 First Amendment does not “acknowledge[] any distinction between citizens and resident aliens.”
 10 *Kwong Hai Chew v. Colding*, 344 U.S. 590, 596 n.5 (1953) (internal quotation marks omitted).

11 7. Secretary Rubio and the administration rely on two provisions of the Immigration
 12 and Nationality Act (“INA”) for their supposed power to censor lawfully present noncitizens. The
 13 first allows the Secretary of State to render a noncitizen deportable if he “personally determines”
 14 their *lawful* “beliefs, statements, or associations” “compromise a compelling United States foreign
 15 policy interest.” 8 U.S.C. §§ 1182(a)(3)(C)(iii), 1227(a)(4)(C)(i) (the “Deportation Provision”). The
 16 second allows the Secretary to “at any time, in his discretion, revoke” a “visa or other
 17 documentation.” *Id.* § 1201(i) (the “Revocation Provision”).

18 8. Both provisions are unconstitutional as applied to protected speech. The First
 19 Amendment cements America’s promise that the government may not subject a speaker to
 20 disfavored treatment because those in power do not like his or her message. And when a federal
 21 statute collides with First Amendment rights, the Constitution prevails. U.S. Const. amend. I
 22 (“Congress shall make no law ... abridging the freedom of speech”); *see also, e.g., United States*
 23 *v. Robel*, 389 U.S. 258, 268 n.20 (1967) (rejecting “balancing” First Amendment rights against
 24 “interests of national security”).

25 9. Secretary Rubio and the Trump administration claim (as all censors do) that this time
 26 is different, that the supposed repulsiveness of anti-American and anti-Israel views mean the
 27 government should get a free pass for censorship. But “[i]f there is a bedrock principle underlying
 28

the First Amendment, it is that the government may not prohibit the expression of an idea simply because society finds the idea itself offensive or disagreeable.” *Texas v. Johnson*, 491 U.S. 397, 414 (1989) (holding the First Amendment protects burning the American flag in protest). Plaintiffs, who are affected by this censorship, bring this case to restore freedom of speech in the United States.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

10. This action arises under the First and Fifth Amendments to the United States Constitution.

11. The Court has jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and the First and Fifth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution.

12. The Court has authority to issue the requested relief under the Declaratory Relief Act at 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201–2202, Rules 57 and 65 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and the Court’s inherent equitable powers. The Court has authority to award costs and attorneys’ fees under 28 U.S.C. § 2412.

13. Venue in this action against officers and employees of the United States is proper in this district under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(e)(1)(B) because a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to these claims occurred in this district and additionally under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(e)(1)(C) because Plaintiff Stanford Daily resides in this district.

DIVISION

14. This action should be assigned to the San Jose Division because a substantial part of the events giving rise to these claims occurred in the county of Santa Clara, where Plaintiff Stanford Daily resides. Civil L.R. 3-2(c), (e).

THE PARTIES

Plaintiffs

15. Plaintiff Stanford Daily Publishing Corporation (“Stanford Daily”) is a California nonprofit corporation based in Stanford, California. Its primary holding is *The Stanford Daily*, which is the independent, student-run newspaper of Stanford University.

16. *The Stanford Daily* covers news related to Stanford University, publishing short- and long-form articles, along with editorials. ~~Since the October 7, 2023, attack~~ For decades, *The Stanford Daily* has included coverage of student opinions and campus protests related to the conflict ~~in Gaza between Israel and Palestine. Its coverage has increased considerably since the October 7, 2023, attack.~~ Since March 2025, fearing Secretary Rubio will revoke their visas under the Revocation Provision or render them deportable under the Deportation Provision, many of the paper's noncitizen writers who are lawfully present in the United States have self-censored by declining to cover pro-Palestinian student protests at Stanford, refraining from covering topics related to the conflict in Gaza, and seeking removal of their previous articles about it.

17. Plaintiff Jane Doe¹ is a noncitizen lawfully present in the United States ~~in valid nonimmigrant status~~, having entered lawfully pursuant to an F-1 student visa. Jane Doe has published pro-Palestinian/anti-Israel commentary online. Jane Doe has not been accused of violating any university rules nor has she been charged with or convicted of any crime. Yet she is listed on the Canary Mission website, which compiles profiles on individuals the organization views as having "anti-Israel" opinions. A Trump administration official testified that "most of the names" of individuals targeted for deportation based on pro-Palestinian advocacy come from Canary Mission. Since March 2025, fearing Secretary Rubio will revoke her visa under the Revocation Provision or render her deportable under the Deportation Provision, Jane Doe has refrained from publishing and voicing her true opinions regarding Palestine and Israel.

18. Plaintiff John Doe is a noncitizen lawfully present in the United States in valid nonimmigrant status, having entered lawfully pursuant to an F-1 student visa. After the October 7, 2023, attack, John Doe peacefully attended pro-Palestinian academic discussions at his university and protests at his university and elsewhere ~~and published. John Doe composed academic papers~~

¹ Jane Doe and John Doe are pseudonyms that two lawfully present noncitizens plaintiffs are using because they fear government retaliation for their protected expression. ~~The Doe Plaintiffs are contemporaneously filing a Motion to Proceed Pseudonymously. The Court granted the Doe Plaintiffs' unopposed motion to proceed pseudonymously and reserved the right to revisit the use of pseudonyms at a later stage of the proceedings if circumstances change. Dkt. No. 51.~~

related to Israel and Palestine and shared pro-Palestinian/anti-Israel (which John Doe considers “anti-genocide”) commentary online. John Doe has not been accused of violating any university rules nor has he been charged with or convicted of any crime. Beginning in March 2025 and continuing into April 2025, John Doe feared that Secretary Rubio would revoke his visa under the Revocation Provision or render him deportable under the Deportation Provision based on his published works and pro-Palestinian stance. John Doe therefore refrained, for example, from publishing a findings from his study related to Israel’s actions in Gaza. He has since resumed his engaged in journalism about Israel and Palestine, including publishing those findings, and engaged in pro-Palestinian advocacy, placing all of which places him at risk of visa revocation and deportation.

Defendants

19. Defendant Marco Rubio is the Secretary of State and has authority over the operations of the State Department. In that capacity and through his agents, Defendant Rubio has broad authority over the operation and enforcement of the immigration laws. Relevant here, the Revocation Provision provides Secretary Rubio unilateral discretion to “revoke” “visa[s] or other documentation,” and the Deportation Provision provides Secretary Rubio unilateral discretion to render noncitizens deportable for protected speech if he “personally determines” ~~the~~ a noncitizen’s speech “compromise[s] a compelling United States foreign policy interest.” Plaintiffs sue Secretary Rubio in his official capacity.

20. Defendant Kristi Noem is the Secretary of Homeland Security and has ultimate authority over the Department of Homeland Security (“DHS”), which includes various component agencies including U.S. Immigration Customs and Enforcement (“ICE”). In that capacity and through her agents, Defendant Noem has broad authority over the operation and enforcement of the immigration laws, including authority to initiate removal proceedings in immigration court and arrest and detain noncitizens while removal proceedings are pending, and therefore leads a mechanism by which Secretary Rubio’s revocation and deportation proclamations are executed. Plaintiffs sue Secretary Noem in her official capacity.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

I. The October 7 Attacks and Ensuing Protests and Other Speech

21. On October 7, 2023, Hamas and other Palestinian militant groups launched a coordinated attack in southern Israel, leading Israel to launch a counterattack and ground invasion of Gaza.

22. At American universities, some students and faculty viewed Israel's response as disproportionate. Planned and spontaneous protests erupted across the country, variously calling for a ceasefire, increased humanitarian aid to Palestinians, and university divestment of financial portfolios from Israel.

23. Some protests featured calls for a "free Palestine" and included chants such as "from the river to the sea, Palestine will be free" and "intifada revolution."

24. Other events featured pro-Palestinian advocates handing out flyers.

25. Some protesters engaged in violence, property damage, and blockades of pro-Israel students attending classes. Many protests, however, remained peaceful.

26. Apart from protests, others on and off campus voiced their viewpoints on the conflict through social media, in news interviews and editorials, and in other forums.

II. During the 2024 Campaign and After the Election, Trump Makes Clear His Administration Will Target Noncitizens Based on Speech.

27. President Donald J. Trump was the Republican Party's 2024 nominee for President of the United States.

28. The 2024 platform of the Republican Party expressed support for "revoking Visas of Foreign Nationals who support terrorism and jihadism."

29. Mr. Trump's campaign website linked to the Republican Party platform.

30. Mr. Trump's campaign website separately promised to "~~Deport~~[d]eport pro-Hamas radicals and make our college campuses safe and patriotic again."

31. At campaign rally on October 16, 2023, Mr. Trump promised to revoke the visas of foreign students deemed “radical, anti-American, and anti-Semitic” and to “aggressively deport” resident aliens with “jihadist sympathies.”

32. At an event on October 28, 2023, Mr. Trump committed, “I will cancel the student visas of Hamas sympathizers on college campuses. The college campuses are being taken over, and all of the resident aliens who joined in the pro-jihadist protest this month—nobody’s ever seen anything like it—come 2025 we will find you and we will deport you. We will deport you.”

33. At a campaign rally on November 8, 2023, Mr. Trump promised, “I will also quickly cancel the student visas of all Hamas sympathizers on college campuses, which have been infested with radicalism like never before.”

34. At the same rally, Mr. Trump said, “If you hate America, if you want to abolish Israel, if you sympathize with jihadists, then we don’t want you in our country To all the resident aliens who joined in the pro-jihadist protests ... we put you on notice: Come 2025, we will find you and we will deport you.”

35. On May 14, 2024, Mr. Trump said at a campaign event, “One thing I do is, any student that protests, I throw them out of the country. You know, there are a lot of foreign students. As soon as they hear that, they’re going to behave.”

36. On January 20, 2025, President Trump issued an executive order stating that the government would ensure that noncitizens present in the United States “do not bear hostile attitudes” toward the United States government and do not “advocate for” or “support” “foreign terrorists and other threats to our national security.” Exec. Order No. 14,161, 90 Fed. Reg. 8451, 8451 (Jan. 20, 2025).

37. The U.S. Senate unanimously confirmed Mr. Rubio as Secretary of State, and he took office on January 21, 2025. The Secretary of State serves at the pleasure of the President.

38. On January 30, 2025, the White House issued a fact sheet promising to revoke the visas of and deport “Hamas Sympathizers,” stating, “To all the resident aliens who joined in the pro-jihadist protests, we put you on notice: come 2025, we will find you, and we will deport you. I

will also quickly cancel the student visas of all Hamas sympathizers on college campuses, which have been infested with radicalism like never before.” *Fact Sheet: President Donald J. Trump Takes Forceful and Unprecedented Steps to Combat Anti-Semitism*, The White House (Jan. 30, 2025), <https://perma.cc/GY4H-7ASR>.

39. The administration considers “~~From~~ “[f]rom the river to the sea, Palestine will be free” to express support for Hamas, capable of justifying action under the Revocation or Deportation Provisions. Trial Tr. vol. 1, 32–35, *Am. Ass’n of Univ. Professors v. Rubio*, No. 25-cv-10685 (D. Mass. July 18, 2025), <https://perma.cc/S854-PXXK>. Likewise, calling Israel “an apartheid state,” “calling for an arms embargo on Israel,” or “criticizing Israel’s actions in Gaza” might be sufficient to invoke the Revocation or Deportation Provisions. *Id.*

III. The Trump Administration Arrests, Detains, and Attempts to Deport Noncitizens for Protected Speech.

40. Trump and his administration made good on their promises, aggressively targeting lawfully present noncitizens for protected speech, particularly at universities.

41. Mahmoud Khalil was a graduate student at Columbia University and a lawful permanent resident (green card holder).

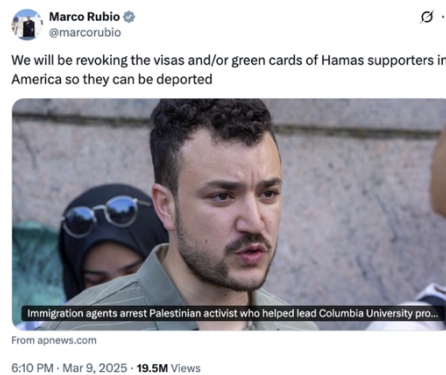
42. Mr. Khalil had been an active participant at Columbia in demonstrations and advocacy against Israel’s actions following the October 7, 2023, attack. Mr. Khalil repeatedly criticized Israel’s military operations in Gaza and what he viewed as Columbia’s financing and facilitation of those activities.

43. Late in the evening on March 8, 2025, agents from DHS arrested Mr. Khalil with no prior notice at his apartment, transferred him to a Louisiana immigration jail, and initiated proceedings to deport him from the United States.

44. The DHS document initiating removal proceedings against Mr. Khalil cited his protected speech as the sole basis for his deportation under the Deportation Provision. DHS later explained Secretary Rubio had “personally determined” Mr. Khalil’s continued presence “would have potentially severe adverse foreign policy consequences and would compromise a compelling

U.S. foreign policy interest” because of Mr. Khalil’s “participation” in “antisemitic protests and disruptive activities, which fosters a hostile environment for Jewish students in the United States.” *Khalil v. Trump*, No. 25-cv-01963, 2025 WL 1514713, at *7 (D.N.J. May 28, 2025), *appeal docketed sub nom., Khalil v. President United States of America*, No. 25-2162 (3d Cir. June 23, 2025).

45. On March 9, 2025, reacting on social media to Mr. Khalil’s arrest, Secretary Rubio wrote, “We will be revoking the visas and/or green cards of Hamas supporters in America so they can be deported.” Marco Rubio (@marcorubio), X (Mar. 9, 2025, at 6:10 PM), <https://perma.cc/726Z-VT4Z>.



46. That same day, DHS posted on social media, “On March 9, in support of President Trump's executive orders prohibiting anti-Semitism, and in coordination with the Department of State, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement arrested Mahmoud Khalil, a former Columbia University graduate student. Khalil led activities aligned to Hamas, a designated terrorist organization.” Homeland Security (@DHSgov), X (Mar. 9, 2025, at 9:29 PM), <https://perma.cc/YS5C-2TKG>.

46-47. On March 10, 2025, reacting to Mr. Khalil’s arrest, President Trump warned that additional students involved in “pro-terrorist, anti-Semitic, anti-American activity” will be found and deported, vowing that “the Trump administration will not tolerate it” and that Mr. Khalil’s arrest was the “first” of “many to come.” Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump), Truth Social (Mar. 10, 2025, at 1:05 PM), <https://perma.cc/6VPC-AESU>.

1 ~~47:48.~~ On March 11, 2025, White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt told reporters that
 2 Mr. Khalil faced deportation because he “sid[ed] with terrorists, Hamas terrorists, who have killed
 3 innocent men, women, and children.” Ms. Leavitt also asserted Mr. Khalil “distributed pro-Hamas
 4 propaganda flyers with the logo of Hamas” on Columbia’s campus, though the government never
 5 offered evidence to substantiate this statement. She emphasized, “This administration is not going
 6 to tolerate individuals ... studying in our country and then siding with pro-terrorist organizations.”

7 ~~48:49.~~ Mr. Khalil remained in a Louisiana immigration jail until June 20, 2025, when a
 8 federal court ordered his release on constitutional grounds. *Khalil v. Trump*, No. 25-cv-01963
 9 (D.N.J. June 20, 2025), ECF No. 316, *appeal docketed sub nom., Khalil v. President United States*
 10 *of America*, No. 25-2162 (3d Cir. June 23, 2025).

11 ~~49:50.~~ On March 13, 2025, in an interview with NPR, Deputy Homeland Security Secretary
 12 Troy Edgar conceded that Mr. Khalil’s deportable “offense” was participating in protests.

13 ~~50:51.~~ Rümeysa Öztürk is a PhD student at Tufts University in Boston, Massachusetts. She
 14 is a citizen of Turkey and studies in the United States on an F-1 student visa.

15 ~~51:52.~~ Ms. Öztürk coauthored an op-ed in the Tufts student newspaper, *The Tufts Daily*, in
 16 March 2024. The article criticized the University’s refusal to adopt several resolutions approved by
 17 the undergraduate student senate urging the University to, among other things, recognize a genocide
 18 in Gaza and divest from Israeli companies.

19 ~~52:53.~~ On March 25, 2025, six plain-clothes federal officers surrounded Ms. Öztürk on the
 20 street outside her home in Somerville, Massachusetts. The officers detained her and quickly
 21 transported her to a Louisiana immigration jail.

22 ~~53:54.~~ Four days before Ms. Öztürk’s arrest, ~~Secretary Rubio~~ the State Department, relying
 23 solely on her protected expression, had revoked Ms. Öztürk’s visa under the Revocation Provision.
 24 A DHS spokesperson justified the revocation by asserting Öztürk’s editorial “[g]lorif[ied] and
 25 support[ed] terrorists.”

1 ~~54:55.~~ Ms. Öztürk remained in a Louisiana immigration jail until May 9, 2025, when a
 2 federal court ordered her release on constitutional grounds. *Ozturk v. Trump*, No. 25-cv-374, 2025
 3 WL 1355667 (D. Vt. May 9, 2025).

4 ~~55:56.~~ Mohsen Mahdawi is an undergraduate student at Columbia University and a legal
 5 permanent resident (green card holder) in the United States.

6 ~~56:57.~~ As a student at Columbia, Mr. Mahdawi was an outspoken critic of Israel's military
 7 campaign in Gaza. He appeared on televised news interviews, in print news articles, and spoke at
 8 protests.

9 ~~57:58. Upon information and belief, on~~ On April 14, 2025, after Mr. Mahdawi completed
 10 the citizenship test to become a United States citizen, masked DHS agents entered the interview
 11 room and arrested him, after which the Trump administration began proceedings to deport him from
 12 the United States.

13 ~~58:59.~~ Secretary Rubio relied upon the Deportation Provision to attempt Mr. Mahdawi's
 14 removal, claiming his protests and rhetoric undermined the U.S. foreign policy goal of promoting
 15 peace in the Middle East. Resp. in Opp'n to Mot. for Release Ex. A, at 2, *Mahdawi v. Trump*, No.
 16 25-cv-00389, 2025 WL 1243135 (D. Vt. Apr. 30, 2025), ECF No. 42-1, *appeal docketed*, No. 25-
 17 1113 (2d Cir. May 1, 2025).

18 ~~59:60.~~ Mr. Mahdawi remained in a Vermont immigration jail until May 9, 2025, when a
 19 federal court ordered his release on constitutional grounds. *Mahdawi*, 2025 WL 1243135.

20 ~~60:61.~~ Since March 2025, the Trump administration has continued revoking the visas of and
 21 arresting, detaining, and attempting to deport lawfully present noncitizens under the Deportation
 22 and Revocation Provisions based on protected expression and has reiterated its intention in public
 23 statements to continue doing so.

24 ~~62.~~ On April 14, 2025, White House Deputy Chief of Staff and Homeland Security
 25 Advisor Stephen Miller said on Fox News that any noncitizen "who preaches hate for America" will
 26 be deported.

1 ~~64-63.~~ On May 8, 2025, Department of Homeland Security Assistant Secretary for Public
 2 Affairs Tricia McLaughlin posted on X that noncitizens “pushing Hamas propaganda,” “glorifying
 3 terrorists,” or otherwise engaging in “anti-American” conduct “can expect your visa will be
 4 revoked.” Tricia McLaughlin (@TriciaOhio), X (May 8, 2025, at 10:26 AM),
 5 <https://perma.cc/5ZJ3-4VUU>.

6 ~~64.~~ At On May 20, 2025, Secretary Rubio testified before the Senate foreign relations
 7 committee. He said, in reference to visa revocations, “There are more coming. We’re going to
 8 continue to revoke the visas of people who are here as guests and are disrupting our higher education
 9 facilities. People are paying money, these kids pay money to go to school and they have to walk
 10 through a bunch of lunatics who are here on student visas. It’s as simple as that. I want to do more.
 11 I hope we can find more of these people.”

12 ~~62-65.~~ On May 21, 2025, ~~congressional hearing,~~ Secretary Rubio, ~~responding testified~~
 13 ~~before the House foreign affairs committee. Responding~~ to a question about the revocation of
 14 Öztürk’s visa based on her speech, he said he “proudly” revoked her visa, that he revokes visas
 15 every day, and that he would continue revoking visas.

16 ~~63-66.~~ On July 18, 2025, John Armstrong, Senior Bureau Official in the Bureau of Consular
 17 Affairs, testified in the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts that mere
 18 criticism of Israel, such as calling for an arms embargo or calling Israel an “apartheid state²²,” are,
 19 per the Trump administration, legitimate grounds to revoke a visa. Trial Tr. vol. 1, 32–35, *Am. Ass’n*
 20 *of Univ. Professors v. Rubio*, No. 25-cv-10685 (D. Mass. July 18, 2025), [https://perma.cc/S854-](https://perma.cc/S854-PXXK)
 21 [PXXK](https://perma.cc/S854-PXXK).

64.67. On July 29, 2025, White House Deputy Chief of Staff and Homeland Security Advisor Stephen Miller posted on X that administration officials are “working continuously” to revoke visas from noncitizens “who espouse hatred for American or its people”—not just noncitizens who criticize Israel. Stephen Miller (@StephenM), X (July 29, 2025, at 9:08 PM), <https://perma.cc/U9JN-FQK7>.



Stephen Miller
@StephenM



This is just patently false. We have officials working continuously to identity, revoke or deny foreigners' visas who espouse hatred for America or its people. This is a top priority. College students who witness such conduct can use the ICE tip line. Also: there is no “speech code” of any kind in the Columbia deal. There is an ironclad requirement — with enforcement mechanisms — to admit students based on actual merit and not illegal racial quotas, set asides or preferences.



Glenn Greenwald ✓ @ggreenwald · 19h

Exactly. No foreign students are being deported by the Trump State Department and ICE for criticizing the US - only for criticizing Israel.

Just like the "hate speech" codes Trump demanded US colleges adopt allows students to call the US a "racist endeavor" but not Israel. ...

9:08 PM · Jul 29, 2025 · 540.6K Views

68. On August 20, 2025, DHS posted on X: “If you hate America, you have no business demanding to live in America.” Homeland Security (@DHSgov), X (Aug. 20, 2025, at 12:30 PM), <https://perma.cc/K649-DNLK>.

69. On September 11, 2025, in response to Charlie Kirk’s assassination, Deputy Secretary of State Christopher Landau posted on X: “In light of yesterday’s horrific assassination of a leading political figure, I want to underscore that foreigners who glorify violence and hatred are not welcome visitors to our country. I have been disgusted to see some on social media praising, rationalizing, or making light of the event, and have directed our consular officials to undertake appropriate action. Please feel free to bring such comments by foreigners to my attention so that the @StateDept can protect the American people.” Christopher Landau (@DeputySecState), X (Sep. 11, 2025, at 8:20 AM), <https://perma.cc/7N8S-TT75>.

70. On September 14, 2025, Deputy Landua responded on X to a video of a noncitizen mocking Charlie Kirk’s assassination: “Rest assured that the @StateDept has revoked his visa so at least he will not be engaging in his grotesque diatribes on American soil.” Christopher Landau (@DeputySecState), X (Sep. 14, 2025, at 12:35 PM), <https://perma.cc/6KB2-DJ9M>.

71. On September 15, 2025, Secretary Rubio posted on X: “America will not host foreigners who celebrate the death of our fellow citizens. Visa revocations are under way. If you are here on a visa and cheering on the public assassination of a political figure, prepare to be deported. You are not welcome in this country.” Secretary Marco Rubio (@SecRubio), X (Sep. 15, 2025, at 10:54 PM), <https://perma.cc/L24D-NRKV>.

72. On October 5, 2025, DHS posted on X that it arrested “terrorist sympathizers across our country.” Homeland Security (@DHSgov), X (Oct. 5, 2025, at 7:09 PM), <https://perma.cc/MX99-CR62>.

73. On October 14, 2025, the State Department posted on X: “The United States has no obligation to host foreigners who wish death on Americans. The State Department continues to identify visa holders who celebrated the heinous assassination of Charlie Kirk. Here are just a few examples of aliens who are no longer welcome in the U.S.” The post was followed by six examples:

“An Argentine national said that Kirk ‘devoted his entire life spreading racist, xenophobic, misogynistic rhetoric’ and deserves to burn in hell. Visa revoked.”

“A South African national mocked Americans grieving the loss of Kirk, saying ‘they’re hurt that the racist rally ended in attempted martyrdom’ and alleging ‘he was used to astroturf a movement of white nationalist trailer trash.’ Visa revoked.”

“A Mexican national said that Kirk ‘died being a racist, he died being a misogynist’ and stated that ‘there are people who deserve to die. There are people who would make the world better off dead.’ Visa revoked.”

“A Brazilian national charged that ‘Charlie Kirk was the reason for a Nazi rally where they marched in homage to him’ and that Kirk ‘DIED TOO LATE.’ Visa revoked.”

“A German national celebrated Kirk’s death and attempted to justify his murder, writing ‘when fascists die, democrats don’t complain.’ Visa revoked.”

1 “A Paraguayan national charged that ‘Charlie Kirk was a son of a b**** and he
 2 died by his own rules.’ Visa revoked.”²

3 74. The State Department also posted: “Aliens who take advantage of America’s
 4 hospitality while celebrating the assassination of our citizens will be removed.” Department of State
 5 (@StateDept), X (Oct. 14, 2025, at 5:55 PM), <https://perma.cc/S6FW-WR3C>.

6 75. On October 17, 2025, the State Department posted on X: “We heard Bluesky is a
 7 great place to research visa revocations.” Department of State (@StateDept), X (Oct. 17, 2025), at
 8 7:24 PM), <https://perma.cc/G7CC-YUHP>.

9 76. On October 26, 2025, ICE arrested Sami Hamdi, a British political commentator who
 10 was on a speaking tour in the United States and often supports Palestine.

11 77. That same day, Tricia McLaughlin quoted a post about Mr. Hamdi’s arrest and said:
 12 “Thanks to the work of @Sec_Noem and @SecRubio and the men and women of law enforcement,
 13 this individual’s visa was revoked and he is in ICE custody pending removal. Under President
 14 Trump, those who support terrorism and undermine American national security will not be allowed
 15 to work or visit this country. It’s commonsense.” Tricia McLaughlin (@TriciaOhio), X (Oct. 26,
 16 2025, at 2:28 PM), <https://perma.cc/ZKQ8-Q8RY>.

17 78. That same day, the State Department quoted Ms. McLaughlin’s post and said:
 18 “We’ve said it before, we’ll say it again: The United States has no obligation to host foreigners who
 19 support terrorism and actively undermine the safety of Americans. We continue to revoke the visas
 20 of persons engaged in such activity. Thank you to our partners at @DHSgov for their efforts to
 21 remove this individual.” Department of State (@StateDept), X (Oct. 26, 2025, at 5:46 PM),
 22 <https://perma.cc/WMP6-XMK7>.

23 79. On November 5, 2025, DHS posted on X: “The U.S. has no obligation to host
 24 foreigners, like Sami Hamdi, who support terrorism and actively undermine the safety of Americans.
 25 And we won’t. There is no room in the United States for the rest of the world’s terrorist

26 ² Department of State (@StateDept), X (Oct. 14, 2025, at 5:55 PM). The posts have been archived
 27 at the following links: <https://perma.cc/2AVU-8P9Z>; <https://perma.cc/4898-YRE3>;
 28 <https://perma.cc/R47Y-D293>; <https://perma.cc/8RSE-5MGP>; <https://perma.cc/QYQ3-4WEU>;
<https://perma.cc/MPC2-653S>; <https://perma.cc/CQQ7-GM8B>.

sympathizers, and we are under no obligation to admit them or let them stay here. @Sec_Noem has made it clear that anyone who thinks they can come to America and hide behind the First Amendment to advocate for anti-American and anti-Semitic violence and terrorism – think again.” Homeland Security (@DHSgov), X (Nov. 5, 2025, at 11:10 AM), <https://perma.cc/2A8P-4QPS>.

80. On November 18, 2025, Stephen Miller said, “The State Department has revoked tens of thousands of visas, and they’re just getting started on tens of thousands more.”

IV. Stanford Daily’s Noncitizen Staff Self-Censors, Fearing Immigration Consequences for Protected Speech.

~~65-81.~~ Stanford Daily operates and publishes *The Stanford Daily*, the student-run newspaper of Stanford University.

~~66-82.~~ Stanford Daily is a voluntary membership validly incorporated 501(c)(3) organization. ~~Everyone who wants to join Stanford Daily is guaranteed a spot, and any Stanford student who *The Stanford Daily* publishes becomes a member of Stanford Daily.~~

~~67.— Stanford Daily has over 150 members.~~

~~68.— Stanford Daily “strives to serve the Stanford community with relevant, unbiased journalism and provides its editorial, tech, and business staffs with unparalleled educational opportunities.”~~

~~69-83.~~ Since its founding as *The Daily Palo Alto* in 1892, Stanford Daily has sought to cover all relevant campus activities in an unbiased fashion and provide an outlet for Stanford community members to publish opinions.

84. Stanford Daily’s mission statement explains that it “strives to serve the Stanford community with relevant, unbiased journalism and provides its editorial, tech and business staffs with unparalleled educational opportunities.”

85. As part of its mission, Stanford Daily has defended and advocated for press rights and the rights of all journalists to report the news and publish opinions without government or university retaliation.

1 86. For a famous example, after the chief of the Palo Alto Police Department James
2 Zurcher raided *The Stanford Daily*'s offices in 1971, Stanford Daily sued to protect its members and
3 defend press freedom. See *Zurcher v. Stanford Daily*, 436 U.S. 547 (1978).

4 87. And for a recent example, in 2024, Stanford Daily advocated against its reporter's
5 arrest, highlighting the "violation of his First Amendment and Fourth Amendment rights" and the
6 "threat to the freedom of the press."

7 88. Even before filing this suit, Stanford Daily had started advocating against the
8 government's use of the Revocation and Deportation Provisions to punish legally present
9 noncitizens, noting in April 2025 that "student speech, from our own reporters and those we're
10 reporting on, is startlingly chilled" by the government's threats and past enforcement actions.

11 89. Stanford Daily is a voluntary membership organization.

12 90. Everyone who wants to join Stanford Daily is guaranteed a spot.

13 91. Stanford Daily has over 150 identifiable members.

14 92. Stanford Daily's members voluntarily joined the organization to support its mission.

15 93. Stanford Daily's members receive updates about the status of this case from Stanford
16 Daily's leadership. Stanford Daily's members elect seven directors who sit on Stanford Daily's nine-
17 member board. The board represents the interests of Stanford Daily's members and has input on the
18 direction of this case.

19 94. Stanford Daily's members include United States citizens and noncitizens. Some of
20 Stanford Daily's members are noncitizens lawfully present in the United States pursuant to lawful
21 admissions on nonimmigrant visas, such as the F-1 student visa. Other noncitizen members are
22 lawfully present in the United States pursuant to their status as lawful permanent residents on
23 immigrant visas.

24 95. Stanford Daily's members are either editorial members or business members.

25 96. To be considered an editorial member, one must have worked for Stanford Daily for
26 at least two calendar months in the current or most recent fall, winter, or spring academic quarter

1 and demonstrated continued interest and commitment through meeting attendance and/or
2 contributions to Stanford Daily's operations.

3 97. To be considered a business member, one must have worked for Stanford Daily at
4 least two months prior to the date of the approval of the membership list and have worked for an
5 average of five or more hours per week since beginning work at Stanford Daily.

6 98. Stanford Daily's content is produced by Stanford Daily members and contributors.

7 99. Any individual who submits and has content of any type published in *The Stanford*
8 *Daily* is a contributor. Contributors need not be Stanford Daily members nor Stanford affiliates.
9 Although contributors to *The Stanford Daily* are associated with Stanford Daily, contributors are
10 not necessarily Stanford Daily members.

11 100. Stanford Daily disseminates its content to readers through its website, social media
12 accounts, email digests, and print editions.

13 101. Stanford Daily publishes content on its website, stanforddaily.com. It also publishes
14 content on X (x.com/StanfordDaily), Instagram (instagram.com/stanforddaily/), Facebook
15 (facebook.com/stanforddaily/), YouTube (youtube.com/@stanforddaily/), TikTok
16 (tiktok.com/@stanforddaily), and Spotify (open.spotify.com/show/2ty8gvAnvYP31X8TUrfwoj).
17 In the past, Stanford Daily published content on LinkedIn, but it does not currently use that platform.

18 102. Stanford Daily also disseminates its content through two types of email digests. First,
19 it disseminates a Daily Digest that comes out every morning of the school week, providing
20 headlines, descriptions, and links to articles in each of its print sections to offer a general overview
21 of what is happening in the Stanford community. And second, Stanford Daily occasionally
22 disseminates a Breaking News email when an article is deemed by its editorial staff to be sufficiently
23 urgent and important to include in its own email to its subscribers after a story breaks.

24 103. Stanford Daily also disseminates its content by printing *The Stanford Daily*. The
25 newspaper is printed once a week over the academic school year aside from breaks and finals weeks.
26 It is distributed every Friday with content from the past week of publication.

104. Because Stanford Daily seeks to cover all relevant news and provide an outlet to the Stanford community to publish opinions, the scope of its content is vast. *The Stanford Daily's* content includes news articles about academics, campus life, data, graduate students, science and technology, and Stanford University; sports articles; opinion articles by columnists, the editorial board, and community members; arts and life articles about culture, music, books, and the screen; humor articles, including cartoons; multimedia content, including videos; games, including mini crosswords, full-size crosswords, and the "Stanfordle" (based on the *New York Times's* "Wordle" game); "The Grind," which welcomes any potential contributors to think deeply about any aspect of their lives and large society they want to explore, whether Stanford related or not; and *The Stanford Daily Magazine*, which is published twice per year.

~~70-105.~~ In line with Stanford Daily's mission and core business activities, *The Stanford Daily* has endeavored to provide the Stanford community with relevant and unbiased journalism about campus events or issues related to Hamas's October 7, 2023, attack on Israel and Israel's war in Gaza.

~~74-106.~~ Also in line with Stanford Daily's mission and operations, the newspaper provides a platform for Stanford community members to voice their opinions on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and other foreign policy issues.

~~107. But~~ To support its mission, Stanford Daily covers matters related to foreign affairs, Israel, and Palestine, such as covering student groups like Students for Justice in Palestine, Law Students for Justice in Palestine, and Stanford Israel Association; student events such as the "All Eyes on Gaza" vigil and the "Rally for Hostages" event, both on October 7, 2025; Israel's detention and deportation of a Stanford alumna who attempted to sail toward Gaza on the Global Sumud Flotilla; Stanford pro-Palestinian protesters being indicted on felony charges; a Stanford chemist suing Stanford University for antisemitism and anti-Israel discrimination; and similar issues.

108. Stanford Daily also provides an outlet for people to publish opinions. Some of this content relates to American foreign affairs, Israel, and Palestine, such as opinion pieces about standing in solidarity with the Palestinian cause, opposing Hamas's actions on October 7, the

prosecution of Stanford pro-Palestinian protestors, hunger strikes in support of Palestine, and inviting more pro-Palestinian speakers to campus.

109. To support its mission, Stanford Daily has covered this news and provided this outlet for opinions before Hamas's October 7, 2023, attack on Israel and Israel's war in Gaza. It has continued to cover news related to foreign affairs, Israel, and Palestine since Israel and Hamas entered a ceasefire and hostage-exchange agreement on October 9, 2025, and it expects to continue covering news and publishing opinions related to foreign affairs, Israel, and Palestine.

110. Many Stanford Daily members, including lawfully present noncitizen members, have personally read and are aware of the government's statements and enforcement actions referenced in this Complaint.

111. Outside of the litigation documents filed in this case, Stanford Daily members are unaware of any government officials disavowing invoking the Deportation and Revocation Provisions against protected speech.

72-112. The government's threats to enforce and past enforcement of the Revocation and Deportation Provisions, and the threat of those Provisions' future enforcement, have specifically impacted Stanford Daily by causing lawfully present noncitizen members to quit, withhold articles, refuse assignments, request articles be taken down, and ask for anonymity due to fear of adverse immigration consequences under the Deportation and Revocation Provisions. Thus, since the Trump administration began targeting lawfully present noncitizens for deportation based on protected speech in March 2025, lawfully present noncitizen students ~~working at and contributing to~~ who are Stanford Daily members have self-censored expression for fear of visa revocation, arrest, detention, and deportation.

113. The government's threats to enforce and past enforcement of the Revocation and Deportation Provisions, and the threat of those Provisions' future enforcement, have also specifically impacted Stanford Daily by causing lawfully present noncitizen contributors and sources to refuse to talk on the record with Stanford Daily reporters and stop submitting opinion pieces to *The Stanford Daily*. Thus, since the Trump administration began targeting lawfully present

noncitizens for deportation based on protected speech in March 2025, lawfully present noncitizens who are Stanford Daily contributors have self-censored expression for fear of visa revocation, arrest, detention, and deportation.

73:114. For example, in March 2025, a lawfully present noncitizen editor on staff decided to quit Stanford Daily because of the student's nonimmigrant visa status. Fearing visa revocation, arrest, and deportation for association with articles about Israel or Palestine, the student decided to leave the newspaper.

74:115. But for the threat of visa revocation under the Revocation Provision and of deportation under the Deportation Provision, the student would continue being a member of Stanford Daily.

75:116. As another example, one lawfully present noncitizen student on staff signed up to cover a story about a vigil that brought together Jewish and Palestinian families to honor those who died in the conflict in Gaza. The student attended, took notes, and interviewed sources. But because of the student's nonimmigrant visa status, and fear that they may face adverse immigration consequences if they published the article, the student decided against publishing the article.

76:117. But for the threat of visa revocation under the Revocation Provision and of deportation under the Deportation Provision, the student would publish the article.

77:118. Similarly, a lawfully present noncitizen editor on staff, fearing adverse immigration consequences, asked Stanford Daily to remove articles they had previously written about pro-Palestinian campus activism and related issues and to no longer assign them to edit stories involving Israel or Palestine.

78:119. But for the threat of visa revocation under the Revocation Provision and of deportation under the Deportation Provision, the editor would republish the article they had taken down and would edit stories involving Israel and Palestine.

79:120. Another lawfully present noncitizen Stanford Daily staff writer, who had written about Israeli and Palestinian officials, as well other foreign affairs topics, asked Stanford

1 Daily to remove all her articles from Stanford Daily's website, fearing adverse immigration
2 consequences.

3 ~~80.121.~~ But for the threat of visa revocation under the Revocation Provision and of
4 deportation under the Deportation Provision, the staff writer would not have asked Stanford Daily
5 to remove the articles.

6 ~~81.122.~~ Additionally, a lawfully present noncitizen Stanford Daily editorial board
7 member asked for an article about the Israeli Defense Forces to be removed from the website, fearing
8 adverse immigration consequences.

9 ~~82.123.~~ But for the threat of visa revocation under the Revocation Provision and of
10 deportation under the Deportation Provision, the editorial board member would not have asked to
11 remove the article.

12 ~~83.124.~~ Secretary Rubio's use of the Deportation Provision and Revocation Provision
13 to target protected expression has hindered Stanford Daily's journalism in other ways, too. Since
14 the Trump administration began targeting lawfully present noncitizens for deportation based on
15 protected speech in March 2025, Stanford Daily has received numerous requests from lawfully
16 present noncitizens who either wrote or were quoted or pictured in articles to remove their name,
17 image, or article for fear of adverse immigration action based on their speech.

18 ~~84.125.~~ Since the Trump administration began targeting lawfully present noncitizens
19 for deportation based on protected speech in March 2025, international students have also largely
20 stopped talking to Stanford Daily journalists and, when they do speak, often refuse to speak on the
21 record, particularly when it comes to discussing topics like Israel and Palestine.

22 ~~85.126.~~ But for the threat of visa revocation under the Revocation Provision and the
23 threat of deportation under the Deportation Provision, international students would resume speaking
24 freely with Stanford Daily.

25 ~~86.127.~~ Since Secretary Rubio ~~starting~~started using the Deportation Provision and
26 Revocation Provision against protected speech, Stanford Daily has received other requests from
27
28

1 current and former writers, asking it to remove opinion editorials they published, quotes they
2 provided, or their names in bylines or articles.

3 87-128. But for the threat of visa revocation under the Revocation Provision and of
4 deportation under the Deportation Provision, the current and former writers would not seek to have
5 their pieces, quotes, or identities removed from the newspaper.

6 129. But for the threat of visa revocation under the Revocation Provision and deportation
7 under the Deportation ~~provision~~Provision, Stanford Daily noncitizen contributors would resume
8 contributing articles to Stanford Daily.

9 130. The government's threats to enforce and past enforcement of the Revocation and
10 Deportation Provisions, and the threat of those Provisions' future enforcement, have specifically
11 impacted Stanford Daily by decreasing the quantity and diversity of opinion pieces The Stanford
12 Daily is able to publish on the conflict between Israel and Palestine. Before the government's threats
13 to enforce and past enforcement of the Revocation and Deportation Provisions, and the threat of
14 those Provisions' future enforcement, Stanford Daily published opinion pieces by noncitizen
15 contributors. But since the government began enforcing the Provisions against protected speech,
16 Stanford Daily has experienced substantially reduced participation from noncitizen contributors.

17 131. The government's threats to enforce and past enforcement of the Revocation and
18 Deportation Provisions, and the threat of those Provisions' future enforcement, have specifically
19 impacted Stanford Daily by affecting the quality of pieces The Stanford Daily is able to publish.
20 Before the government's threats to enforce and past enforcement of the Revocation and Deportation
21 Provisions, and the threat of those Provisions' future enforcement, Stanford Daily writers could
22 incorporate a wide variety of sources and quotes into their news articles, including perspectives from
23 international students. But now, legally present noncitizen students no longer want to speak with
24 Stanford Daily as sources or contribute opinion pieces.

25 132. The specific effects of the government's threats to enforce and past enforcement of
26 the Revocation and Deportation Provisions, and the threat of those Provisions' future enforcement,
27 are ongoing.

133. Legally present noncitizen Stanford Daily members who have quit, withheld articles, refused assignments, requested articles be taken down, and asked for anonymity have continued to take those actions since this case was filed.

88-134. Legally present noncitizen Stanford Daily members face a credible and imminent threat of adverse immigration action under the Deportation and Revocation Provisions if they engage in constitutionally protected speech based on the government's threats and enforcement of the challenged Provisions.

V. Plaintiff Jane Doe Fears Deportation Due to Her Pro-Palestinian Speech.

89-135. Plaintiff Jane Doe is a noncitizen lawfully present in the United States pursuant to a lawful admission on an F-1 student visa.

90-136. Jane Doe is a former student at a United States university.

137. There is no relationship between Stanford Daily and Jane Doe.

138. Jane Doe has never been a student at Stanford University, never submitted to or published content with *The Stanford Daily*, and never affiliated with Stanford Daily.

94-139. Jane Doe was a member of the pro-Palestinian student group Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) at her university.

92-140. Jane Doe has published pro-Palestinian/anti-Israel commentary online, including commentary accusing Israel of committing “genocide” and perpetuating “apartheid.” She has also used the slogan, “from the river to the sea, Palestine will be free.”

93-141. Jane Doe has publicly criticized American foreign policy, particularly its relationship with Israel.

94-142. Due to her advocacy, Jane Doe appeared in a profile on the Canary Mission website.

95-143. Canary Mission is an anonymously run website that publishes the personal information of students, professors, and organizations it deems “anti-Israel.”

96-144. On July 9, 2025, during a trial in the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts, Peter Hatch, a senior official in ICE’s Homeland Security Investigations

unit, testified that Derek Gordon, Deputy Special Agent in Charge of Homeland Security Investigations at DHS, asked Hatch to instruct Hatch's team to generate "reports" on individuals identified on Canary Mission's website. Trial Tr. vol. 2, 108–10, *Am. Ass'n of Univ. Professors v. Rubio*, No. 25-cv-10685 (D. Mass. July 9, 2025), <https://perma.cc/PCL4-6YTQ>.

97-145. The "reports" Mr. Hatch's team prepares are for the State Department, which uses them to make decisions regarding, among other things, "[v]isa revocations." *Id.* at 101.

98-146. Mr. Hatch testified that "most" of the names of student protestors that DHS asked ICE to investigate "came from" Canary Mission's website. *Id.* vol. 1, 44.

99-147. Prior to their detentions and attempted deportations, Canary Mission published profiles of Mahmoud Khalil, Rümeysa Öztürk, and Mohsen Mahdawi.

100-148. ~~Since March 2025~~ In March 2025, Jane Doe read news articles about the detention and attempted deportation of noncitizens like Mahmoud Khalil and Rümeysa Öztürk for engaging in protected pro-Palestinian speech, including articles quoting government statements about the detention and deportation of these noncitizens. Consequently, fearing that Secretary Rubio will revoke her visa under the Revocation Provision or render her deportable under the Deportation Provision, Jane Doe has refrained from publishing and voicing her true opinions regarding Palestine and Israel and has deleted a social media account to guard against retaliation for past expression.

101-149. But for the threat of visa revocation under the Revocation Provision and deportation under the Deportation Provision, Jane Doe would resume publishing and voicing her true opinions regarding Palestine and Israel and would reactivate her social media account containing her past expression.

150. Jane Doe has personally read and is aware of government statements threatening visa revocation and deportation under the Revocation and Deportation Provisions for engaging in protected speech, including the government's statements referenced in this Complaint or substantially similar statements, and, based on those statements, fears adverse immigration action for engaging in protected speech.

151. Jane Doe is personally aware of the government's past enforcement of the Deportation and Revocation Provisions based on protected speech against pro-Palestinian individuals such as Mahmoud Khalil, Rümeyza Öztürk, and Mohsen Mahdawi.

152. Jane Doe is aware of the government's recent enforcement of the Deportation and Revocation Provisions against noncitizens who voiced criticism of Charlie Kirk.

153. Jane Doe is unaware of any government officials tasked with enforcing the Revocation and Deportation Provisions disavowing invoking the Provisions against protected speech.

154. Because of the government's threats to enforce the Revocation and Deportation Provisions based on protected speech, and its past enforcement of the Provisions based on protected speech, Jane Doe has self-censored, including decreasing or eliminating her expression supporting Palestinians, criticizing American foreign policy, or opposing the Israeli government.

155. Specifically, because of the government’s threats and its past enforcement, Jane Doe no longer attends pro-Palestinian protests, no longer wears a keffiyeh to support the Palestinian cause, no longer engages in direct-action organizing supporting Palestinians, no longer holds up the Palestinian flag, no longer maintains her main social media account, and no longer posts pro-Palestinian content on her other social media accounts. The only public expression in which Jane Doe now engages to support the Palestinian cause is wearing watermelon earrings that are easily removable. (Watermelons share the same colors as the Palestinian flag, and pro-Palestinian speakers often use the symbol to support the Palestinian cause.) The government’s threats to enforce the Revocation and Deportation Provisions based on protected speech, and its past enforcement of the Provisions based on protected speech, have chilled Jane Doe from engaging in every other form of public expression.

156. The chilling effect of the government's threats to enforce and its past enforcement of the Revocation and Deportation Provisions based on protected speech, and the threat of those Provisions' future enforcement, on Jane Doe has continued since she filed this lawsuit and will continue unless judicial relief is secured.

157. Based on the government's threats to enforce and its enforcement of the challenged Provisions, Jane Doe faces a credible and imminent threat of adverse immigration action under the Deportation and Revocation Provisions if she engages in constitutionally protected speech.

VI. John Doe Fears Adverse Immigration Action for His Protected Speech.

~~102;~~158. Plaintiff John Doe is a noncitizen lawfully present in the United States pursuant to a lawful admission on an F-1 student visa. John Doe traveled to the United States to study journalism, and a primary reason he chose the United States is its strong protection for freedom of speech and freedom of the press.

159. John Doe is a former student at a United States university.

160. There is no relationship between Stanford Daily and John Doe.

~~103;~~161. John Doe has never been a student at Stanford University, never submitted to or published content with *The Stanford Daily*, and never affiliated with Stanford Daily.

~~104;~~162. After the October 7, 2023, attack, John Doe attended pro-Palestinian protests and published pro-Palestinian/anti-Israel commentary online.

~~105;~~163. At protests, John Doe participated in chants including, "From" "[f]rom the river to the sea, Palestine will be free," as well as chants accusing Israel of committing "genocide," and chants calling Israel a "terrorist state."

~~106;~~164. After the Trump administration began targeting other lawfully present noncitizen students for deportation based on protected speech, the professor for whom John Doe served as a teaching assistant advised John Doe to reconsider engaging in protected advocacy related to Israel and Palestine due to potential danger to his immigration status.

~~107;~~165. After March 2025In March 2025, John Doe read news articles about the detention and attempted deportation of noncitizens like Mahmoud Khalil and Badar Khan Suri for engaging in protected pro-Palestinian speech, including articles quoting government statements about the detention and deportation of these noncitizens. Consequently, fearing Secretary Rubio would revoke his visa under the Revocation Provision or render him deportable under the Deportation Provision ~~following the administration's actions against other noncitizens~~, John Doe

1 refrained from publishing ~~a study~~his findings containing criticism of Israel's actions in Gaza, which
2 John Doe views as a genocide backed by the United States' foreign policy.

3 ~~108.166.~~ But for the threat of visa revocation under the Revocation Provision and
4 deportation under the Deportation Provision, John Doe would have published and voiced his true
5 opinions regarding Palestine and Israel without delay or fear of arrest, detention, or deportation for
6 his protected speech.

7 ~~109.167.~~ John Doe has resumed engaging in some protected pro-Palestinian/anti-Israel
8 commentary, including accusing Israel of committing genocide, as well as commentary critical of
9 American foreign policy towards Israel and Palestine. His continuing expression places him in
10 danger of visa revocation under the Revocation Provision and deportation under the Deportation
11 Provision.

12 168. The government's threats to enforce and its past enforcement of the Revocation and
13 Deportation Provisions based on protected speech have caused John Doe to alter and reduce his pro-
14 Palestinian/anti-Israel protected expression because the threat of those Provisions' future
15 enforcement.

16 169. For example, John Doe has made his X social media account, which contains pro-
17 Palestinian/anti-Israel commentary, private.

18 170. Additionally, because of the Trump administration's tactics when pursuing
19 noncitizens for protected speech, which include midnight raids, masked ICE agents, and detention
20 thousands of miles from home, some members of John Doe's extended family who are noncitizens
21 but lawfully reside in the United States fear associating with him and have substantially reduced
22 their contact with him because they fear he will be targeted by the Trump administration because of
23 his pro-Palestinian/anti-Israel commentary and advocacy.

171. Additionally, fearing adverse immigration consequences, John Doe avoids wearing “Palestinian Youth Movement” apparel including a sweatshirt with “Gaza, the Occupier’s Graveyard” written in Arabic:



172. John Doe has personally read and is aware of government statements threatening visa revocation and deportation under the Revocation and Deportation Provisions for engaging in protected speech, including the government’s statements referenced in this Complaint or substantially similar statements, and, based on those statements, fears adverse immigration action for engaging in protected speech.

173. John Doe is personally aware of the government’s past enforcement of the Deportation and Revocation Provisions against pro-Palestinian individuals such as Mahmoud Khalil, Rümeysa Öztürk, Badar Khan Suri, and Mohsen Mahdawi.

174. John Doe is aware of the government’s recent enforcement of the Deportation and Revocation Provisions against noncitizens who voiced criticism of Charlie Kirk.

175. John Doe is unaware of any government officials tasked with enforcing the Revocation and Deportation Provisions disavowing invoking the Provisions against protected speech.

176. Because of the government's threats to enforce the Revocation and Deportation Provisions based on protected speech, and its past enforcement of the Provisions based on protected speech, John Doe has self-censored, including decreasing his expression supporting Palestinians, criticizing American foreign policy, and opposing the Israeli government.

177. Based on the government's threats to enforce and its enforcement of the challenged Provisions, John Doe faces a credible and imminent threat of adverse immigration action under the Deportation and Revocation Provisions when he engages in constitutionally protected speech.

178. Because John Doe faces a credible and imminent threat of adverse immigration action under the Deportation and Revocation Provisions when he engages in constitutionally protected speech, he has reduced and limited his protected expression. But because he agrees with George Orwell that "[i]f liberty means anything at all, it means the right to tell people what they do not want to hear," he continues some of his constitutionally protected speech despite that threat.

INJURIES TO PLAINTIFFS

~~110~~179. Secretary Rubio and Secretary Noem violate Plaintiffs' First Amendment rights by enforcing the Deportation Provision and Revocation Provision based on protected expression, the threatened enforcement of which chills Plaintiffs and/or their lawfully present noncitizen members from engaging in protected expression like attending protests, using certain slogans, and publicly voicing their true views about American foreign policy, Israel, and Palestine.

~~111~~180. The chill is amplified because Secretary Rubio and Secretary Noem's enforcement of the Deportation Provision and Revocation Provision has entailed ambush arrests by masked agents accompanied by prolonged detention in ICE holding facilities thousands of miles from detainees' homes.

~~112~~181. Secretary Rubio and Secretary Noem have enforced the Deportation Provision and Revocation Provision based on protected expression and will continue to do so absent declaratory and injunctive relief prohibiting enforcement of these statutes based on protected expression.

1 ~~113~~:182. “The loss of First Amendment freedoms, for even minimal periods of time,
2 unquestionably constitutes irreparable injury.” *Roman Cath. Diocese of Brooklyn v. Cuomo*, 592
3 U.S. 14, 19 (2020) (quoting *Elrod v. Burns*, 427 U.S. 347, 373 (1976) (plurality op.)).

4 ~~114~~:183. Plaintiffs have suffered and continue to suffer irreparable harm due to the
5 Deportation Provision’s and Revocation Provision’s enforcements based on protected expression,
6 which will continue absent declaratory and prospective injunctive relief.

7 ~~115~~:184. Because Plaintiffs and their lawfully present noncitizen members have
8 engaged and wish to continue engaging in expression which Secretary Rubio might consider anti-
9 American, anti-Israel, or detrimental to American foreign policy, they face an ongoing and credible
10 threat of continued enforcement of the Deportation Provision and Revocation Provision.

11 ~~116~~:185. Secretary Rubio and Secretary Noem’s ongoing threat to the protected
12 expression of Plaintiffs and their members presents an actual controversy within this Court’s
13 jurisdiction.

14 FIRST CLAIM

15 First Amendment

16 Deportation Provision

17 (Declaratory Relief)

18 ~~117~~:186. Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate by reference the preceding paragraphs as
19 though fully set forth herein.

20 ~~118~~:187. The First Amendment provides “Congress shall make no law ... abridging
21 the freedom of speech, or of the press; or of the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to
22 petition the Government for a redress of grievances.” U.S. Const. amend. I.

23 ~~119~~:188. America’s First Amendment reflects “a profound national commitment to the
24 principle that debate on public issues should be uninhibited, robust, and wide-open.” *N.Y. Times Co.*
25 *v. Sullivan*, 376 U.S. 254, 270 (1964).

26 ~~120~~:189. Political protests are an exercise of “basic constitutional rights in their most
27 pristine and classic form.” *Edwards v. South Carolina*, 372 U.S. 229, 235 (1963).

1 ~~121~~.190. The “advocacy of a politically controversial viewpoint is the essence of First
 2 Amendment expression,” and “no form of speech is entitled to greater constitutional protection.”
 3 *McCullen v. Coakley*, 573 U.S. 464, 488–89 (2014) (cleaned up).

4 ~~122~~.191. A free press “serves and was designed to serve as a powerful antidote to any
 5 abuses of power by government officials and as a constitutionally chosen means for keeping officials
 6 elected by the people responsible to all the people whom they were selected to serve.” *Mills v.*
 7 *Alabama*, 384 U.S. 214, 219 (1966).

8 ~~123~~.192. To that end, “[s]uppression of the right of the press to praise or criticize
 9 government agents and to clamor and contend for or against change ... muzzles one of the very
 10 agencies the Framers of our Constitution thoughtfully and deliberately selected to improve our
 11 society and keep it free.” *Id.*

12 ~~124~~.193. A press/communication platform’s own rights are infringed when its
 13 contributors are chilled. *Simon & Schuster, Inc. v. Members of N.Y. State Crime Victims Bd.*, 502
 14 U.S. 105, 121–23 (1991).

15 ~~125~~.194. The Supreme Court has made clear that “freedom of speech and of press is
 16 accorded aliens residing in this country.” *Wixon*, 326 U.S. at 148.

17 ~~126~~.195. “It has long been recognized that resident aliens enjoy the protections of the
 18 First Amendment.” *Price v. U.S. INS*, 962 F.2d 836, 841 (9th Cir. 1991).

19 ~~127~~.196. The INA allows the Secretary of State to render deportable noncitizens
 20 “whose ... activities in the United States the Secretary of State has reasonable ground to believe
 21 would have potentially serious adverse foreign policy consequences for the United States.” 8 U.S.C.
 22 § 1227(a)(4)(C)(i).

23 ~~128~~.197. That deportation authority is subject to “[t]he exceptions” to the Secretary of
 24 State’s authority to exclude noncitizens from the United States on foreign policy grounds. *Id.*
 25 § 1227(a)(4)(C)(ii) (incorporating *id.* § 1182(a)(3)(C)(ii)–(iii)).

~~129~~198. Those exceptions include that a noncitizen “shall not be excludable [for protected speech], unless the Secretary of State personally determines that the alien’s admission would compromise a compelling United States foreign policy interest.” *Id.* § 1182(a)(3)(C)(iii).

~~130~~199. The Deportation Provision, therefore, allows the Secretary of State to render lawfully present noncitizens deportable for protected speech if he “personally determines” that the noncitizen’s activities “compromise a compelling United States foreign policy interest.” *Id.* §§ 1182(a)(3)(C)(iii), 1227(a)(4)(C)(i).

~~131~~200. When the government determines that a noncitizen is no longer lawfully in the United States through operation of the Deportation Provision, immigration officers may obtain a warrant to arrest and detain the noncitizen pending completing of removal proceedings. *See id.* § 1226(a); 8 C.F.R. § 287.8(c).

~~132~~201. Detention and/or deportation would deter a person of ordinary firmness from engaging in protected activity.

~~133~~202. As a result of the Deportation Provision, lawfully present noncitizens must either forego protected expression or risk detention and deportation.

~~134~~203. As applied to protected speech, the Deportation Provision is facially viewpoint based and content based because it applies solely to speech the government believes adversely affects its foreign policy.

~~135~~204. The government “may not discriminate against speech based on the ideas or opinions it conveys.” *Iancu v. Brunetti*, 588 U.S. 388, 393 (2019).

~~136~~205. “Viewpoint discrimination is thus an egregious form of content discrimination” because “[t]he government must abstain from regulating speech when the specific motivating ideology or the opinion or perspective of the speaker is the rationale for the restriction.” *Rosenberger v. Rector & Visitors of Univ. of Va.*, 515 U.S. 819, 829 (1995).

~~137~~206. The Deportation Provision is facially viewpoint discriminatory as applied to protected speech for two reasons. First, it affords the Secretary of State unbounded discretion to render lawfully present noncitizens deportable on the basis of protected speech. Second, opinions

1 the Secretary deems in his sole discretion adverse to America’s foreign policy subject noncitizens
 2 to potential deportation, while those he views as aligning with or praising American foreign policy
 3 do not.

4 ~~138:207.~~ Secretary Rubio and the Trump administration’s enforcement of the
 5 Deportation Provision demonstrates the Deportation Provision’s viewpoint–discriminatory nature
 6 as applied to protected speech.

7 ~~139:208.~~ For example, ~~the basis for~~ Secretary Rubio’s determination that Mr. Khalil’s
 8 protected expression regarding Israel and Palestine triggered the Deportation Provision is that
 9 ~~Mr. Secretary~~ Rubio believed Mr. Khalil’s opinions and expression “undermine[d] U.S. policy to
 10 combat anti-Semitism around the world and in the United States.”

11 ~~140:209.~~ ~~The basis for~~ Secretary Rubio’s determination that Mr. Mahdawi’s protected
 12 speech regarding Israel and Palestine triggered the Deportation Provision is that ~~Mr. Secretary~~ Rubio
 13 believed Mr. Mahdawi’s opinions and expression undermined the government’s position regarding
 14 the Middle East peace process.

15 ~~141:210.~~ Laws discriminating based on viewpoint are per se unconstitutional. *See*
 16 *Iancu*, 588 U.S. at 399 (“The Court’s finding of viewpoint bias ended the matter.”)

17 ~~142:211.~~ In the alternative, viewpoint–discriminatory laws are subject to strict
 18 scrutiny.

19 ~~143:212.~~ The First Amendment also generally forbids government actions that
 20 discriminate based on the content of the speaker’s expression. “Content-based laws—those that
 21 target speech based on its communicative content—are presumptively unconstitutional and may be
 22 justified only if the government proves that they are narrowly tailored to serve compelling state
 23 interests.” *Reed v. Town of Gilbert*, 576 U.S. 155, 163 (2015). “Government regulation of speech is
 24 content based if a law applies to particular speech because of the topic discussed or the idea or
 25 message expressed.” *Id.* Content-discriminatory laws are subject to strict scrutiny. *Id.* at 163–64.

26 ~~144:213.~~ The Deportation Provision is not narrowly tailored to achieve a compelling
 27 government interest with respect to deportations based on protected speech.

1 ~~145:214.~~ Restricting speech to tilt public debate and opinion in the government’s
2 preferred direction “is not [a] valid, let alone substantial” government interest. *Moody v. NetChoice,*
3 *LLC*, 603 U.S. 707, 740 (2024).

4 ~~146:215.~~ Nor is the Deportation Provision’s allowance for deportation based on
5 protected speech narrowly tailored. It vests the Secretary of State with unbounded, unbridled, and
6 unconstrained discretion to deem any noncitizen’s protected speech a foreign policy threat and to
7 banish the speaker from the United States on that basis.

8 ~~147:216.~~ The Deportation Provision’s allowance for deportation based on protected
9 speech is not the least restrictive means of advancing the government’s foreign policy objectives
10 because, at minimum, the government can counter the noncitizen’s speech with its own speech.

11 ~~148:217.~~ The “First Amendment prohibits government officials from retaliating
12 against individuals for engaging in protected speech.” *Lozman v. Riviera Beach*, 585 U.S. 87, 90
13 (2018).

14 ~~149:218.~~ By allowing the Secretary of State to render lawfully present noncitizens
15 deportable for protected speech about America’s foreign policy, the Deportation Provision also
16 blatantly discriminates based on viewpoint by codifying the ability of the government to take
17 adverse action against protected speech by targeting its foreign policy critics with deportation.

18 ~~150:219.~~ Deporting someone for protected speech would deter and is deterring people
19 of ordinary firmness from engaging in protected speech.

20 ~~151:220.~~ Plaintiffs are entitled to a declaration under 28 U.S.C. § 2201 that the
21 Deportation Provision is viewpoint and content based when applied to protected speech and that the
22 First Amendment prohibits deporting Plaintiffs and/or their noncitizen members under it for
23 engaging in protected speech.

SECOND CLAIM

First Amendment

Deportation Provision

(Injunctive Relief)

~~152:221.~~ Plaintiffs re-allege and re-incorporate the preceding paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.

~~153:222.~~ The Deportation Provision violates the First Amendment for the reasons stated in Claim I.

~~154:223.~~ Plaintiffs are entitled to injunctive relief preventing Secretary Rubio from rendering Plaintiffs and/or their noncitizen members deportable under the Deportation Provision for engaging in protected speech. *See Bell v. Hood*, 327 U.S. 678, 684 (1946) (“[I]t is established practice for this Court to sustain the jurisdiction of federal courts to issue injunctions to protect rights safeguarded by the Constitution.”); *see also Ex parte Young*, 209 U.S. 123 (1908).

~~155:224.~~ Plaintiffs are entitled to injunctive relief preventing Secretary Noem from initiating deportation proceedings against or otherwise invoking the Deportation Provision against Plaintiffs and/or their noncitizen members based on protected speech. *See Bell*, 327 U.S. at 684; *Ex parte Young*, 209 U.S. 123.

~~156:225.~~ Plaintiffs have no adequate legal, administrative, or other remedy by which to prevent or minimize the continuing irreparable harm to their First Amendment rights. Without injunctive relief against the Deportation Provision as applied to protected speech, Secretary Rubio’s suppression and chill of Plaintiffs’ First Amendment rights will continue, and Plaintiffs will suffer per se irreparable harm indefinitely.

~~157:226.~~ The balance of equities and the public interest ~~favours~~favor permanent injunctive relief because “it is always in the public interest to prevent the violation of a party’s constitutional rights.” *X Corp. v. Bonta*, 116 F.4th 888, 904 (9th Cir. 2024) (internal quotation marks omitted).

1 ~~158:227.~~ Plaintiffs acknowledge that, under 8 U.S.C. § 1252(f)(1), only the Supreme
 2 Court has jurisdiction to “enjoin or restrain the operation” of the Deportation Provision. Plaintiffs
 3 therefore plead the request for injunctive relief so it is contained in the operative pleading and may
 4 be raised to the Supreme Court in later proceedings.

5 **THIRD CLAIM**

6 **Fifth Amendment (Vagueness)**

7 **Deportation Provision**

8 **(Declaratory Relief)**

9 ~~159:228.~~ Plaintiffs re-allege and re-incorporate the preceding paragraphs as though
 10 fully set forth herein.

11 ~~160:229.~~ The Due Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution
 12 prohibits laws, including immigration statutes, that are impermissibly vague. *Sessions*, 584 U.S. at
 13 174–75 (majority op.).

14 ~~161:230.~~ A law is unconstitutionally vague when it “fails to provide a person of
 15 ordinary intelligence fair notice of what is prohibited” or “is so standardless that it authorizes or
 16 encourages seriously discriminatory enforcement.” *FCC v. Fox Television Stations, Inc.*, 567 U.S.
 17 239, 253 (2012) (quoting *United States v. Williams*, 553 U.S. 285, 304 (2008)).

18 ~~162:231.~~ Because deportation is a “drastic measure, often amounting to lifelong
 19 banishment or exile,” the “most exacting vagueness standard” applicable to criminal laws also
 20 applies to immigration laws. *Sessions*, 584 U.S. at 156–57 (plurality op.) (cleaned up).

21 ~~163:232.~~ Moreover, when a regulation “is capable of reaching expression sheltered by
 22 the First Amendment,” the vagueness doctrine “demands a greater degree of specificity than in other
 23 contexts.” *Smith v. Goguen*, 415 U.S. 566, 573 (1974).

24 ~~164:233.~~ The Deportation Provision is vague on its face as applied to protected speech
 25 because it provides no guidance to noncitizens regarding when a person’s expression would
 26 “compromise a compelling United States foreign policy interest.” 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(3)(C)(iii).

1 ~~165:234.~~ The Deportation Provision is also vague on its face as applied to protected
 2 speech because it provides standardless, limitless discretion to government officials charged with
 3 its enforcement regarding when a person's expression would "compromise a compelling United
 4 States foreign policy interest."

5 ~~166:235.~~ The Deportation Provision is also vague on its face as applied to protected
 6 speech because it authorizes arbitrary and discriminatory enforcement, granting the Secretary of
 7 State unfettered and unreviewable discretion to arbitrarily enforce the Deportation Provision based
 8 on his own subjective determination of what will compromise or adversely affect foreign policy.

9 ~~167:236.~~ The Deportation Provision is also vague on its face as applied to protected
 10 speech because the United States' foreign policy interests are vast, ever-changing, and often kept
 11 confidential from the public. *See Massieu v. Reno*, 915 F. Supp. 681, 700–03 (D.N.J.) (concluding
 12 8 U.S.C. § 1227(a)(4)(C)(i) is void for vagueness), *rev'd on other grounds*, 91 F.3d 416 (3d Cir.
 13 1996).

14 ~~168:237.~~ Plaintiffs are entitled to a declaration under 28 U.S.C. § 2201 that the
 15 Deportation Provision is void for vagueness under the Fifth Amendment as applied to deportations
 16 based on protected speech and that the Fifth Amendment prohibits deporting Plaintiffs and/or their
 17 noncitizen members under the Deportation Provision for engaging in protected speech.

18 **FOURTH CLAIM**

19 **Fifth Amendment (Vagueness)**

20 **Deportation Provision**

21 **(Injunctive Relief)**

22 ~~169:238.~~ Plaintiffs re-allege and re-incorporate the preceding paragraphs as though
 23 fully set forth herein.

24 ~~170:239.~~ The Deportation Provision is unconstitutionally void for vagueness under the
 25 Fifth Amendment as applied to deportations based on protected speech for the reasons stated in
 26 Claim III.

1 ~~171:240.~~ Plaintiffs are entitled to injunctive relief preventing Secretary Rubio from
 2 rendering Plaintiffs and/or their noncitizen members deportable under the Deportation Provision
 3 based on protected speech. *See Bell*, 327 U.S. at 684; *Ex parte Young*, 209 U.S. 123.

4 ~~172:241.~~ Plaintiffs are entitled to injunctive relief preventing Secretary Noem from
 5 initiating deportation proceedings against or otherwise invoking the Deportation Provision against
 6 Plaintiffs and/or their noncitizen members based on protected speech. *See Bell*, 327 U.S. at 684; *Ex*
 7 *parte Young*, 209 U.S. 123.

8 ~~173:242.~~ Plaintiffs have no adequate legal, administrative, or other remedy by which
 9 to prevent or minimize the continuing irreparable harm to their First and Fifth Amendment rights.
 10 Without injunctive relief against the Deportation Provision as applied to protected speech, Secretary
 11 Rubio's suppression and chill of Plaintiffs' First Amendment rights will continue, and Plaintiffs will
 12 suffer per se irreparable harm indefinitely.

13 ~~174:243.~~ The balance of equities and the public interest ~~favours~~favor permanent
 14 injunctive relief because "it is always in the public interest to prevent the violation of a party's
 15 constitutional rights." *X Corp.*, 116 F.4th at 904 (internal quotation marks omitted).

16 ~~175:244.~~ Plaintiffs acknowledge that, under 8 U.S.C. § 1252(f)(1), only the Supreme
 17 Court has jurisdiction to "enjoin or restrain the operation" of the Deportation Provision. Plaintiffs
 18 therefore plead the request for injunctive relief so it is contained in the operative pleading and may
 19 be raised to the Supreme Court in later proceedings.

20 **FIFTH CLAIM**

21 **First Amendment**

22 **Revocation Provision**

23 **(Declaratory Relief)**

24 ~~176:245.~~ Plaintiffs re-allege and re-incorporate the preceding paragraphs as though
 25 fully set forth herein.

26 ~~177:246.~~ Subjecting noncitizens to adverse immigration action for protected speech
 27 violates the First Amendment for the reasons stated in Claim I.

1 ~~178:247.~~ The Revocation Provision, 8 U.S.C. § 1201(i), provides that “[a]fter the
2 issuance of a visa or other documentation to any alien, the ... Secretary of State may at any time, in
3 his discretion, revoke such visa or other documentation.”

4 ~~179:248.~~ The Revocation Provision allows the Secretary of State to revoke a “visa or
5 other documentation” based on protected speech.

6 ~~180:249.~~ For example, Secretary Rubio used the Revocation Provision to revoke
7 Rümeyşa Öztürk’s visa based on her protected speech of coauthoring an article for *The Tufts Daily*
8 newspaper, and he committed to revoking visas of other lawfully present noncitizens in the future
9 based on protected speech.

10 ~~181:250.~~ The “First Amendment prohibits government officials from retaliating
11 against individuals for engaging in protected speech.” *Lozman*, 585 U.S. at 90.

12 ~~182:251.~~ Revoking the visa or other documentation of a noncitizen would deter and is
13 deterring people of ordinary firmness from engaging in protected speech.

14 ~~183:252.~~ Revocations of visas and other documents for protected speech necessarily
15 rely on viewpoint or content discrimination, because the Secretary of State is singling out particular
16 expression for disfavored treatment, making the Revocation Provision subject to strict scrutiny as
17 applied to protected speech.

18 ~~184:253.~~ Restricting speech to tilt public debate and opinion about American foreign
19 policy and silence views contrary to the current government’s foreign policy “is not [a] valid, let
20 alone substantial” government interest. *Moody*, 603 U.S. at 740.

21 ~~185:254.~~ The Revocation Provision, as applied to protected speech, is not narrowly
22 tailored because it vests the Secretary of State with unbounded, unbridled, and unconstrained
23 discretion to revoke visas and other documentation based on protected speech for whatever reason
24 the Secretary personally deems sufficient.

25 ~~186:255.~~ The Revocation Provision, as applied to protected speech, is not the least
26 restrictive means of advancing the government’s objectives because, at minimum, the government
27 can counter the noncitizen’s speech with its own speech.

~~187:256.~~ Plaintiffs are entitled to a declaration under 28 U.S.C. § 2201 that the First Amendment prohibits revoking the visa or other documentation of Plaintiffs or their noncitizen members under the Revocation Provision based on protected speech.

SIXTH CLAIM

First Amendment

Revocation Provision

(Injunctive Relief)

~~188:257.~~ Plaintiffs re-allege and re-incorporate the preceding paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.

~~189:258.~~ Revoking noncitizens' visas or other documentation based on protected speech violates the First Amendment for the reasons stated in Claim V.

~~190:259.~~ Plaintiffs are entitled to injunctive relief preventing Secretary Rubio from revoking the visas or other documentation of Plaintiffs and/or their noncitizen members under the Revocation Provision based on protected speech. *See Bell*, 327 U.S. at 684; *Ex parte Young*, 209 U.S. 123.

~~191:260.~~ Plaintiffs are entitled to injunctive relief preventing Secretary Noem from initiating deportation proceedings against Plaintiffs and/or their noncitizen members based on visas revoked under the Revocation Provision for engaging in protected speech. *See Bell*, 327 U.S. at 684; *Ex parte Young*, 209 U.S. 123.

~~192:261.~~ Plaintiffs have no adequate legal, administrative, or other remedy by which to prevent or minimize the continuing irreparable harm to their First Amendment rights. Without injunctive relief against the Revocation Provision as applied to protected speech, Secretary Rubio's suppression and chill of Plaintiffs' First Amendment rights will continue, and Plaintiffs will suffer per se irreparable harm indefinitely.

~~193:262.~~ The balance of equities and the public interest ~~favours~~favor permanent injunctive relief because "it is always in the public interest to prevent the violation of a party's constitutional rights." *X Corp.*, 116 F.4th at 904 (internal quotation marks omitted).

1 ~~194:263.~~ The Revocation Provision is not subject to Section 1252(f)'s bar on injunctive
 2 relief because it falls outside "the provisions of part IV of this subchapter [8 U.S.C. §§ 1221–1232]."
 3 8 U.S.C. 1252(f)(1).

4 SEVENTH CLAIM

5 Fifth Amendment (Vagueness)

6 Revocation Provision

7 (Declaratory Relief)

8 ~~195:264.~~ Plaintiffs re-allege and re-incorporate the preceding paragraphs as though
 9 fully set forth herein.

10 ~~196:265.~~ For the reasons stated in Claim III, the Fifth Amendment prohibits vague laws
 11 that fail to give the public notice of what is required or lack standards to prevent arbitrary or
 12 discriminatory enforcement.

13 ~~197:266.~~ The Revocation Provision is unconstitutionally vague as applied to protected
 14 speech because it provides noncitizens no notice of what protected expression could trigger the
 15 revocation of their visa or other documentation.

16 ~~198:267.~~ The Revocation Provision is also vague on its face as applied to protected
 17 speech, because it provides limitless discretion to government officials charged with its enforcement
 18 regarding when a noncitizen's protected speech provides a basis revoke a visa or other
 19 documentation.

20 ~~199:268.~~ The Revocation Provision is also unconstitutionally vague as applied to
 21 protected speech because it provides no guidance to government officials charged with its
 22 enforcement regarding when a noncitizen's expression should trigger revocation of a visa or other
 23 documentation.

24 ~~200:269.~~ The Revocation Provision is also unconstitutionally vague as applied to
 25 protected speech because it authorizes arbitrary and discriminatory enforcement by granting the
 26 Secretary of State and subordinate officials unfettered and unreviewable authority to revoke a visa
 27 "at any time, in his discretion." 8 U.S.C. § 1201(i).

1 ~~201:270.~~ Plaintiffs are entitled to a declaration under 28 U.S.C. § 2201 that the Fifth
 2 Amendment prohibits revoking the visa or other documentation of Plaintiffs or their noncitizen
 3 members under the Revocation Provision based on protected speech.

4 EIGHTH CLAIM

5 Fifth Amendment

6 Discretionary Revocation Provision

7 (Injunctive Relief)

8 ~~202:271.~~ Plaintiffs re-allege and re-incorporate the preceding paragraphs as though
 9 fully set forth herein.

10 ~~203:272.~~ The Revocation Provision is unconstitutionally void for vagueness under the
 11 Fifth Amendment as applied to revocations of visas or other documentation based on protected
 12 speech for the reasons stated in Claim VII.

13 ~~204:273.~~ Plaintiffs are entitled to injunctive relief preventing Secretary Rubio from
 14 revoking visas or other documentation of Plaintiffs and/or their noncitizen members under the
 15 Revocation Provision based on protected speech. *See Bell*, 327 U.S. at 684; *Ex parte Young*, 209
 16 U.S. 123.

17 ~~205:274.~~ Plaintiffs are entitled to injunctive relief preventing Secretary Noem from
 18 initiating deportation proceedings against Plaintiffs and/or their noncitizen members based on visas
 19 revoked under the Revocation Provision for engaging in protected speech. *See Bell*, 327 U.S. at 684;
 20 *Ex parte Young*, 209 U.S. 123.

21 ~~206:275.~~ Plaintiffs have no adequate legal, administrative, or other remedy by which
 22 to prevent or minimize the continuing irreparable harm to their First Amendment rights. Without
 23 injunctive relief against the Revocation Provision as applied to protected speech, Secretary Rubio's
 24 suppression and chill of Plaintiffs' First Amendment rights will continue, and Plaintiffs will suffer
 25 per se irreparable harm indefinitely.

207-276. The balance of equities and the public interest ~~favours~~favor permanent injunctive relief because “it is always in the public interest to prevent the violation of a party’s constitutional rights.” *X Corp.*, 116 F.4th at 904 (internal quotation marks omitted).

~~208-277.~~ The Revocation Provision is not subject to Section 1252(f)’s bar on injunctive relief because it falls outside “the provisions of part IV of this subchapter [8 U.S.C. §§ 1221–1232].” 8 U.S.C. 1252(f)(1).

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs respectfully request that this Court enter judgment against Defendants in their official capacities and issue the following relief:

A. Declare that the First Amendment prohibits deporting Plaintiffs and/or their noncitizen members under the Deportation Provision³ for engaging in protected speech;⁴

B. Declare that, as to Plaintiffs and/or their noncitizen members, the Deportation Provision is void for vagueness under the Fifth Amendment as applied to deportations based on protected speech;

C. A preliminary and permanent injunction prohibiting Secretary Rubio from rendering Plaintiffs and/or their noncitizen members deportable under the Deportation Provision based on protected speech;⁵

³ As used in the Prayer for Relief, “Deportation Provision” has the same meaning as in Paragraph Seven above.

⁴ To be clear, Plaintiffs' lawsuit does not challenge the Secretary's separate exclusion authority under 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(3)(C)(iii). Plaintiffs' challenge is solely to 8 U.S.C. § 1227(a)(4)(C)(i) as applied to the initiation of deportation proceedings based on protected speech.

⁵ Plaintiffs acknowledge that, under 8 U.S.C. § 1252(f), only the Supreme Court has jurisdiction to “enjoin or restrain the operation” of the Deportation Provision. Plaintiffs therefore plead the request for injunctive relief so it is contained in the operative pleading and may be raised to the Supreme Court in later proceedings. Section 1252(f) does not, however, constrain this Court’s ability to enjoin the Revocation Provision or render declaratory relief regarding the constitutionality of the Deportation Provision as to Plaintiffs and their noncitizen members. *See Biden v. Texas*, 597 U.S. 785, 800–01 (2022).

1 D. A preliminary and permanent injunction prohibiting Secretary Noem from initiating
2 deportation proceedings or otherwise invoking the Deportation Provision against Plaintiffs and/or
3 their noncitizen members based on protected speech;

4 E. Declare that the First Amendment prohibits revoking the visas or other
5 documentation of Plaintiffs and/or their noncitizen members under the Revocation Provision⁶ based
6 on protected speech;

7 F. Declare that as to Plaintiffs and/or their noncitizen members, the Revocation
8 Provision is void for vagueness under the Fifth Amendment as applied to revocations of visas or
9 other documentation based on protected speech;

10 G. A preliminary and permanent injunction prohibiting Secretary Rubio from revoking
11 the visas or other documentation of Plaintiffs and/or their noncitizens members under the
12 Revocation Provision for engaging in protected speech;⁷

13 H. A preliminary and permanent injunction prohibiting Secretary Noem from initiating
14 deportation proceedings against Plaintiffs and/or their noncitizen members based on visas revoked
15 under the Revocation Provision for engaging in protected speech;

16 I. Award reasonable attorneys' fees and costs under 28 U.S.C. § 2412(b) and any other
17 applicable law; and

18 J. Award such other relief as the Court may deem just and proper.
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23
24

25 ⁶ As used in the Prayer for Relief, "Revocation Provision" has the same meaning as in Paragraph
26 Seven above.

27 ⁷ The Revocation Provision is not subject to Section 1252(f)'s bar on injunctive relief because
28 it falls outside "the provisions of part IV of this subchapter [8 U.S.C. §§ 1221–1232]." 8 U.S.C.
1252(f)(1).

1 Dated: ~~August 6~~December 4, 2025

Respectfully Submitted,

2 /s/ Marc Van Der Hout

/s/ Conor T. Fitzpatrick

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