



Australian Muslim Women's
Centre for Human Rights
Equality without Exception

MEDIA RELEASE

Statement on the recent coordinated campaigns against women speaking out against genocide

12 February 2025

As we reflect on recent media, our feeds are overwhelmed by coordinated political and media campaigns designed to silence and discredit the women in our community who speak out against genocide.

These campaigns aim to shut down any justified criticism of Israel and the atrocities it is committing. The most recent attacks on Dr. Randa Abdel-Fattah and Antoinette Lattouf are not isolated incidents. They represent similar onslaughts experienced by a multitude of women - academics, journalists, activists, lawyers, politicians, and students. These women have suffered at the hands of a disturbing trend which has seen political and media forces collaborate to intimidate and discredit those who stand against Israel's grotesque violations of human rights and international law.

Over the past 16 months we have witnessed abhorrent smear tactics in the media targeting those who simply advocate for palestinians' 'right to exist'. This fundamental right should not be up for debate. We have seen women being unfairly dismissed or forced to resign. We have seen students silenced, and people's livelihoods threatened. Those who have spoken out on these issues have been accused of anti-semitism — accusations that are not only unfounded, but also misrepresent legitimate criticism of Israel as a state and condemnation of the human rights violations it has committed against Palestinians.

We stand with Dr. Abdel-Fattah, Ms Lattouf, and all those facing punishment for speaking out against genocide. We extend our support and thanks to those who continue to speak out against these injustices, despite the personal and professional risks they face. We ask our colleagues, community, and sector to continue to show their support and speak against genocide and all forms of colonial violence. The strength of collective action is essential in holding those responsible accountable.

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