Berlin's Humboldt University sends police to violently disband peaceful Gaza sit-in

IYSSE Humboldt University 5 May 2024

On Friday at lunchtime, around 150 students gathemed the near 40,000 people killed in Gaza, she initially refused for a sit-in in front of the entrance to Berlina's omment and finally declared: "My sympathy goes to the Humboldt University (HU) to demand an end to Hamas hostages."

genocide in Gaza. When the Israeli assault on Gaza bis barely disguised support for the Israeli war effort is in began, the university had immediately declared with the previous record of Humboldt University, which is solidarity with Israel and banned critical events againstorious as a centre of war propaganda. Von Blumenthal is the genocide.

regulatory law, including the possibility of deregistering students on a political basis.

The sit-in was initiated by members of the Student Coalitio Mon Blumenthal's demand that the protest must give way to erlin and other groups. The protesters demanded "dialog" was rejected by a student who confronted her with the neediate ceasefire, an end to German and Western afrants that the university administration had refused to provide eliveries to Israel, comprehensive humanitarian aid forthate International Youth and Students for Social Equality eople of Gaza and democratic rights for all Palestinians. (IYSSE) university group with a room for an event against the As soon as news of the sit-in spread on social media, ntassacre in Gaza. In response, von Blumenthal declared that if police arrived with dozens of officers and cordoned offthateprotesters "do not leave peacefully now, I will make use of ampus, in agreement with the university administration mAdomiciliary rights."

bontaneous gathering of supporters of the sit-in was cordone and this is what then happened. At around 4:30 p.m., police off and, in the meantime, no one was able to enter violatently dispersed the completely peaceful student gathering. Durtyard and take part in the protest. Students who said **(Stay**dents were arrested one by one and taken away, with police are scheduled to take part in seminars in the building wasing painful grips. The police had used the same brutal enied entry by the police on the grounds of suspicion, nfethods just a few days earlier to break up the Gaza protest cample if they were wearing a kufiyah. Officers were **abso**p in front of the Bundestag (federal parliament).

Protest participants who spoke to members of the IYSSE, Even the cafeteria adjacent to the student refectory **expr**essed solidarity with their fellow students in the United uarded by police, so that the entire university campus **States**, who are also protesting against the genocide in Gaza at fectively under police siege for hours. An employee of **Ahe**erican universities. There, police are now using firearms niversity's security service, who had already tried to snate instant students and have even violently arrested several me microphone from the hands of speakers at a regist frendale professors. Speaking to the protesters, the IYSSE has udent rally in December, once again physically assaulted for the working class to mobilise against imperialism peaker from the "Jewish Voice for Just Peace in the Middle war.

ast" association. In Berlin, Christopher from the IYSSE at the HU said in a HU President Julia von Blumenthal was present during tl**state**ment at the sit-in: "The IYSSE supports the courageous vents. She grabbed a megaphone herself to condemn **ptlot**tests of the students at the HU. University President udents' protest and demand the "shouting" be stop**pEld**menthal must not be allowed to ban any criticism of the /hen asked what she had to say about the demands readhourtific genocide in Gaza from campus while protecting the ght-wing extremist Professor Baberowski, who declares that itler was not vicious and that the Holocaust was essentially as a shootings in the Russian civil war."

In particular, Christopher called on university staff to walk ff the job and defend the students. "The goal must be a ationwide and international strike that will end the attack on he fundamental right of free speech. Ultimately, the issues at ake now will not be fought on campus—but in the factories and warehouses, on the railways and in the harbours. The orking class, the most powerful social force on earth, which reates all wealth through its labour, must use this power to orce an end to genocide and war."



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