

A RESOLUTION FOR DEMILITARIZATION OF THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITY

Sponsor: Executive Committee

WHEREAS the Council of Graduate Students (CGS) is the representative body of all graduate students enrolled at The Ohio State University as established by Article 2, Section 1 of the CGS Constitution; and

WHEREAS the Council or its appointed representative(s) have the power to sit as an advisory agent on behalf of graduate students on all matters brought before personnel, committees, or agencies of The Ohio State University involving the interest of graduate students as established in Article 3 Section 3 of the CGS Constitution; and

WHEREAS Section 1033 of H.R. 3230 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1997 allowed for the U.S. Federal government to transfer excess military equipment to local law enforcement agencies; and

WHEREAS both the Ohio State University Police Department and the Columbus Police Department possess and use military-style equipment acquired from this program; (add citation) and

WHEREAS the material acquisition of military-style equipment can be accompanied by cultural, organizational, and operational shifts that are associated with militarization¹; and

WHEREAS the use of military-style equipment and the other dimensions of militarization are associated with increased violence towards citizens²; and

WHEREAS the violence associated with police militarization disproportionately harms Black citizens^{3,4}; and

WHEREAS many Ohio State students and members of the Columbus community have called for and supported demilitarization in the wake of recent racial justice protests⁵; and

WHEREAS the university administration has stated there are no current plans to acquire equipment through the 1033 program but has not committed to ending all further acquisitions.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Council of Graduate Students calls on the university to divest from all military equipment acquired through the 1033 program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Council of Graduate Students asks Ohio State to refrain from all future 1033 acquisitions or any similar acquisition of military equipment; and

¹ Kraska (2007) defines the four dimensions of militarization: Material: includes the acquisition of martial weaponry, equipment, and advanced technology; Cultural: includes the use of military language, style (appearance), beliefs, and values; Organizational: includes the use of military-like structural hierarchies, including 'command and control' centers, or elite squads of officers patterned after military special operations; Operational: includes patterns of activity modeled after the military such as in the areas of intelligence, supervision, handling high-risk situations, or warmaking/restoration.

² Delehanty, C., Mewhirter, J., Welch, R., & Wilks, J. (2017). Militarization and police violence: The case of the 1033 program. *Research & Politics*, 4(2), 2053168017712885.

³ Buehler, James W. (2017). Racial/Ethnic Disparities in the Use of Lethal Force by US Police, 2010–2014. *American Journal of Public Health*, 107(2), 295–297.

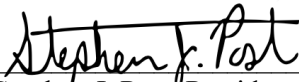
⁴ Gamal, F. (2016). The racial politics of protection: critical race examination of police militarization. *California Law Review*, 104(4), 979-1008.

5 <https://www.cleveland.com/news/2020/06/ohio-state-student-governments-ask-for-university-to-cut-ties-to-columbus-police-department.html>;

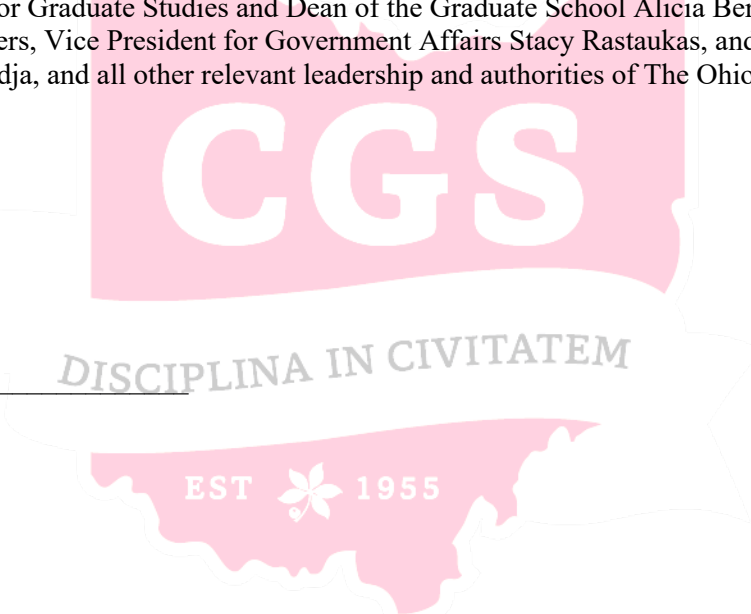
40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Council of Graduate Students recommends the Public Safety Advisory Committee
41 evaluate and publicly report on OSUPD with regard to the 4 key dimensions of militarization: material, cultural,
42 organizational, and operational; and
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44 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Council of Graduate Students desires the Public Safety Advisory Committee to create
45 actionable recommendations for improvement based on the above report that will be open for comment and participation
46 from the student body; and
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48 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Council of Graduate Students calls on the university to acknowledge and publicly
49 condemn the militarization of the Columbus Police Department and the risks that this pose to Black students; and
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51 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Council of Graduate Students urges the Ohio State Office of Government Affairs to
52 advocate for police demilitarization at the city, state, and national levels; and
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54 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Council of Graduate Students directs its President and Vice President to distribute
55 this resolution to The Ohio State University President Kristina M. Johnson, Executive Vice President and Provost Bruce
56 McPherson, Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School Alicia Bertone, Vice President for
57 Student Life Melissa Shivers, Vice President for Government Affairs Stacy Rastaukas, and the Chair of the Council on
58 Student Affairs Jordan Vадja, and all other relevant leadership and authorities of The Ohio State University and its
59 partners.

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62 Approved: Yes/No

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64 Date: __11/6/20__

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67 Stephen J. Post, President

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Council of Graduate Students
at The Ohio State University