

Protests and CvB



Date PV:	28-05-2024	Petitioner:	Melanie Kool
Attachment(s)?	-	Committee:	-
BOB-phase:	OB	Previously treated?	Yes, 240521

Introduction

A lot has happened in the past few weeks regarding protests, motions, messages, and meetings with various groups regarding Israel-Palestine. This piece will discuss some thoughts we may eventually be able to vote on.

Status

A timeline

Luckily [Folia](#) has ordered their articles in a timeline starting from Monday May 6th onwards, the first attempt at an encampment at Roeters. (I decided not to include protests before this date, so we can focus on things that recently happened) At first I wanted to write a timeline myself, but because it is very difficult to include what is relevant and what not I decided not to. Instead you can read the titles and click on some things you find interesting or you know not much about. **THIS IS HOMEWORK (1-1.5 hrs)**. Same goes for knowing what types of emails you have got since May 6th regarding the protests, safety, UvA-viewpoints and what not. *I do ask everyone to not discuss all these documents during the PV, because we cannot have a discussion only based on I have read this in, and I have read that in.*

What do we face?

The CSR and FSR FGw (humanities/geesteswetenschappen) have demanded the CvB to resign. We have the option to support this message. This means we have to consider some things.

First of all, what is the CvB to us? We have our own DT from the faculty, which we have a good relationship with. We do not have a direct connection to the CvB, the CSR has. Are we comfortable with acting on a central level by requesting the CvB to resign?

Second of all, would we want to? The CvB has (in my opinion) lacked communication to students, whether it would be the protesters or other students. Most messages after the start of May 6th, have been quite hostile and not de-escalating. The message from Peter van Tienderen (FNWI) was the first from a dean voicing a different type of message (see your student mail on May 14th). Besides, there is also a lot of concern regarding police violence. It is not the first time that police were forced to stop the protests with many casualties. ***Even though there is a lot to be said about the police performance, we can only judge the role the CvB has had in reporting to the police.*** And it is very likely to assume the CvB has known about how the police would operate.

Recently some things regarding the protests have changed. At the FNWI small protests have been happening, and have been quite peaceful. The faculty is also working on creating moments and space for conversation and discussion, hoping to restore some peace and trust.

Additionally, the UvA is looking for ways to review future collaborations and align them with an ethical framework.

Reading the minutes of the last BO (240516) we asked a lot of questions regarding the current stance of the UvA and protests. Are there specific things we didn't ask for that we want to know from the DT regarding the CvB, collaborations, or action plans?

Finally, there is an important thing to consider. There are several ways in which we could let the CvB know we do not agree with how they decided to act in the past weeks.

1. We can write a motion of censure. Here we would elaborate why we do not agree with the CvB.
2. We could put forward a vote of no confidence. Which basically means we argue why the CvB has lost our confidence and they can try to regain it. We would not cooperate with the CvB until the issue is resolved.
3. A step further would be to ask the CvB to resign, which would mean the UvA should look for a new Board of Directors (CvB).

Vote proposals

Vote proposal 1: The FSR FNWI 23/24 does not support destruction of UvA property in the event of a protest.

Vote proposal 2: The FSR FNWI 23/24 considers the CvB to have been aware of the risk of violence afflicted on students by the police.

Vote proposal 3: The FSR FNWI 23/24 considers the CvB to not have done enough to de-escalate the situation and create a safe space for students at the UvA, including the FNWI.

Vote proposal 4: The FSR FNWI 23/24 writes a motion of censure to the CvB because of awareness of the risk of police violence, lack of communication, and lack of de-escalation.

Vote proposal 5: The FSR FNWI 23/24 votes no-confidence on the CvB because of awareness of the risk of police violence, lack of communication, and lack of de-escalation.

Vote proposal 6: The FSR FNWI 23/24 demands the CvB to resign because of awareness of the risk of police violence, lack of communication, and lack of de-escalation.

Discussion points

1. Is the piece clear?
2. Is there information missing?
3. Is the information correct?
4. Moment of discussion
 - a. What do you think of the position of the FSR to discuss the resignation of the CvB?
 - b. Can the CvB be considered aware of the potential police violence against student protestors?
 - c. Would we want to vote no confidence in the CvB?
 - d. Would we want to demand the CvB to resign?

- e. What should we do with our votes if we were to vote? Send an email to Peter and CvB?
- f. Anything else?
- 5. Do we want to make a decision today and vote on the vote proposals?
- 6. Are there voting proposals missing?
 - a. Are all the voting proposals necessary? Should some be left out from the last 3?
- 7. Are the voting proposals correct?
- 8. Vote

Goals

- 1. Discuss the violence in student protests and vote

Action points

- 1. Send a letter to the CvB of the UvA and Dean of the FSR FNWI.