

**STAND: THE STUDENT-
LED MOVEMENT TO END
MASS ATROCITIES**



stand



FROM OUR STUDENT DIRECTOR

As STAND ends its second year operating in the midst of a pandemic, I am incredibly proud of the important work that the Managing Committee (MC), Action Committees (ACs), State Advocacy Leads (SALs), and university and high school chapters have achieved.

I joined STAND as an MC member in my junior year of high school. Despite having never heard of the organization, I was drawn to STAND's commitment to young people and the idea that advocacy could implement important skills, impact a movement, or even be a career. Since my start in 2018, I have become increasingly grateful for the exposure that STAND offered me to the world of lobbying, peacebuilding, and conflict, and I credit STAND's infinite support for youth as the encouragement I needed to pursue a career in this space.

This year, our student-led MC juggled the interesting return to in-person learning while leading STAND to numerous firsts: the first year of operating the United States AC, a pilot of an alumni mentorship program, a Day of Action event, and a response to the crises in Ukraine and Tigray, Ethiopia. While this report will offer a perhaps more tangible picture of STAND's impact, being in STAND has offered me and my peers invaluable personal growth and connection, where the friendships made, confidence gained, and strength realized can never be truly reflected in any numbers produced.

I am so grateful for my role as Student Director and am beyond excited to see the legacy that STAND continues to forge. While my time with STAND may be coming to a close, I am confident that STAND's impact on the lives of young advocates across the nation will remain constant and ongoing.



CAROLINE MENDOZA

Columbia University '24

MISSION

To build, organize, and empower a grassroots network of students and young people committed to advocating for the prevention and mitigation of genocide and mass atrocities wherever they may occur.

VISION

We envision a world in which the global community is invested in preventing, mitigating, and sustainably resolving genocide and mass atrocities.

ABOUT

Born out of the fight to stop the genocide in Darfur, Sudan, STAND is devoted to creating a sustainable student network that actively fights genocide and mass atrocities wherever they may occur. By creating political will, we hold our elected officials accountable for preventing and ending genocide and mass atrocities, and by supporting young peacebuilders in conflict-affected and post-conflict countries, we help communities build resistance to conflict.

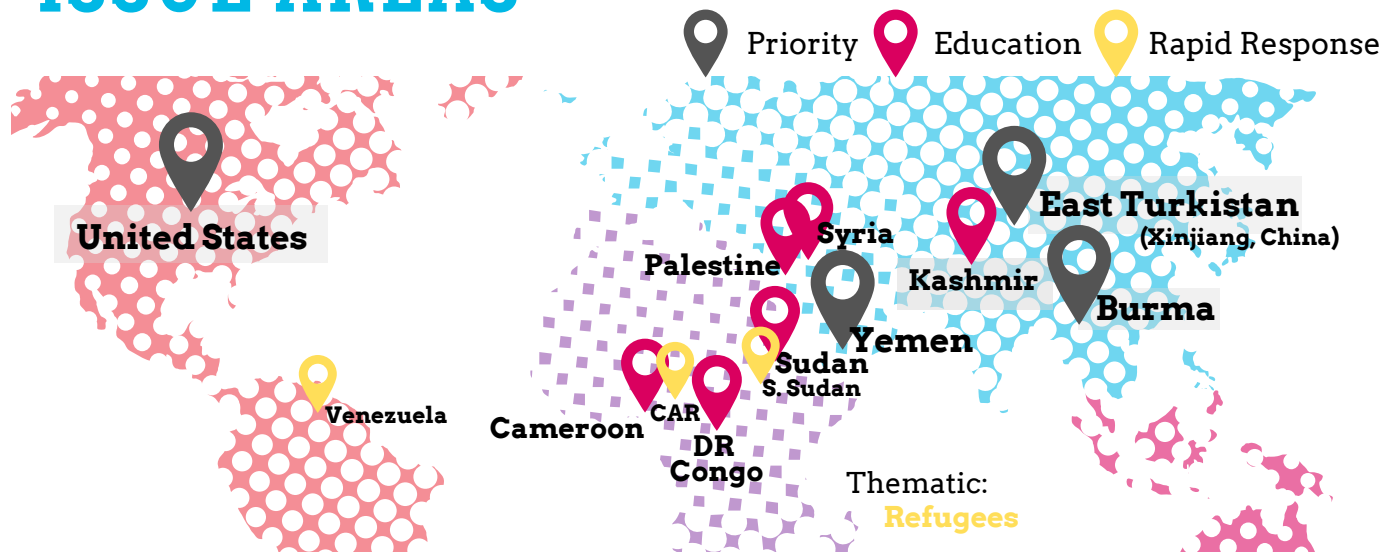
STAND is truly youth-led. We mobilize our youth network to respond rapidly to emerging crises, educate their peers on ongoing issues, and advocate to policymakers to enact change.

STAND is the United States-based Youth Department of the Aegis Trust. We are also proud to co-lead the U.S. Youth, Peace, and Security Coalition with Search for Common Ground.

MODEL



ISSUE AREAS



ACTION COMMITTEES

Action Committees are platforms for individual youth activists to join an advocacy community for one or more topical areas.

Burma

As the largest AC, the Burma group focused on U.S. policy in the wake of the 2021 military coup. After several years of advocacy from STAND and other partners, the United States formally recognized the crimes against the Rohingya as genocide and crimes against humanity, and the House of Representatives passed the BURMA Act in April.



East Turkistan (Xinjiang, China)

The East Turkistan AC continued its second year of advocacy for the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act, which was signed into law in December. They educated AC members on the United States' diplomatic boycott of the Beijing Winter Olympics. With the Burma AC, members published a [blog about genocide determinations](#).

United States

Our new US AC developed priorities for domestic advocacy, including indigenous rights, migration and refugee policy, and combatting white supremacy. For Indigenous Peoples' Day, members published a [blog](#) and spoke on Instagram Live.

Yemen

The Yemen AC built on its experience advocating for a new War Powers Resolution. They submitted a nomination for the "Spoliers of Peace" campaign, and members worked together to publish a [blog on the evidence of different atrocity crimes](#) committed in Yemen.



Youth, Peace, & Security (YPS)

We were proud to become co-chair of the United States Youth, Peace, and Security Coalition, with Search for Common Ground. The coalition includes over 70 youth-led and youth-serving organizations who support advancing YPS in U.S. policy and practice. Through the coalition, we co-organized two youth dialogue events with global peacebuilders. STAND's Policy team also led a YPS campaign to educate and mobilize members, including a video, resources for chapters and writing op-eds, a letter campaign targeting Congress, and social media posts related to youth in each of our priority regions.

Emerging Issues & Education

In addition to our priority regions, we educated our members on significant global changes, particularly in Afghanistan, Sudan, and Ukraine. Our Education team published 5 Conflict Updates and our SD spoke on the Eutopya podcast.

State-Level Genocide Education

Our map of state mandates for genocide and Holocaust education grew, as the Massachusetts bill passed in December. STAND's state-level genocide education coordinator Claire was interviewed for her local news station about the progress of the Oregon mandate.

Alumni Mentorship Program Pilot

To expand our professional development efforts, we piloted a mentorship program that matched a small group of current members and alumni. They met monthly to support the mentees in their academic, career, and personal goals. We look forward to expanding the program in future years!

Events

We were thrilled to convene alumni and Advisory Board members in Washington, DC, for an August event and June Summit. We also held many virtual events, including a Day of Action with trainings on op-eds, graphic design, and advocacy.



BY THE NUMBERS

4.71
OUT OF 5.0

Managing Committee experience rating

STAND and being a part of the MC have really shaped who I am as a person. This has been a huge part of my life for the past four years, and I have learned so much. I really don't want it to end. - MC Member

2/3

Representatives and Senators met
among Managing Committee's Congresspeople

States represented
across the leadership team

14

1

New Action Committee: United States



CLASS OF 2022

Aisha Saleem

co-University Outreach and co-Yemen Action Committee Lead
Barnard College
B.S. Biochemistry
Next: Working as an Optical Researcher

Jordyn Galvan

Communications, State Advocacy Lead Manager, and United States Action Committee co-Lead
Texas State University
B.A. Political Science & International Studies
Next: Graduate school

The 2021-2022 Managing Committee is so grateful for the wonderful team we had this year, notably our two graduating seniors: Aisha and Jordyn! As two longtime STAND members, we are constantly in awe of their dedication and passion, and cannot wait to see what else they're able to achieve. Thank you for your wonderful presence with STAND.



STAND has been one of the most rewarding parts of my life for the past 5 years. From working in my chapter to having the opportunity to work on the MC, I have grown as a speaker, organizer, and change maker. The skills I learned in this organization will transcend through my work in the future and I am truly lucky to have been a part of such a driven team.

-Graduating MC Member





GRASSROOTS GIVING

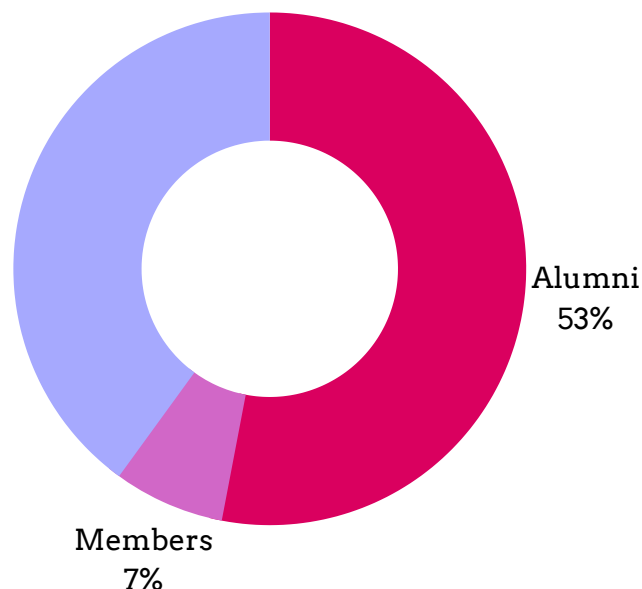
July 2021-June 2022

Individual gifts helped us return to Washington, DC, for the first convening since January 2020.

Our 2022 Summer Summit in June allowed us to meet representatives and Senators, STAND alumni, and partner organizations, and plan for the future of STAND. We also sent materials to the Managing Committee for our virtual retreats in August and January.

STAND offers our members a range of no-cost tools and experiences. We prioritize making every opportunity accessible to youth of all backgrounds.

General
40%



180 Donations

Average Donation **\$37**

\$6,701.37 Total Grassroots Giving

STAND has influenced how I see the world and what I want to continue doing as I make the transition to my post-secondary education soon. STAND has allowed me to cultivate my passions for international relations and using legislation to aid certain conflicts and issues.

*-Ananya Gera, Social Media Coordinator and
Terre Haute South High School Chapter Member*

THANK YOU!



Managing Committee

Caroline Mendoza,
Student Director
Jordyn Galvan
Simmy Ghosh
Grace Harris
Ishreet Lehal
Mira Mehta
Aisha Saleem
Claire Sarnowski
Shreya Satagopan
Allison Weiner
Hazen Williams (Fall 2021)

State Advocacy Leads

Trinity Anthony (MD)
Alondra Becerra (TX)
John Cullen (VA)
Paola Giraldo (FL)
Brittany LaMarr (CT)
Aparna Parthasarathy (NJ)
Evie Portier (CA)
Alishbah Saddiqui (NY)
Rohan Shah (IL)

Advisory Board

Ursala Knudsen-Latta, Chair
Niemat Ahmadi
Grace Fernandes
MacKenzie Hamilton
Ashley Morefield
Scott Warren
Carl Wilkens

Our generous donors

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Juan Amaya
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Stefan Bauschard
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Jeanette Liberto

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Amisha Mehta
Vahe Mikikian
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Ashley Morefield
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Jordan Stevenson
Melinda Strawmyer
Bethany Vance
David Weisshaar
William Winter
Lindsey Woolf
Katherine Zander
Scott Zellner

And many more

**With special thanks
to our parent
organization, The
Aegis Trust & Aegis
America.**



Year after year, the STAND movement proves to be resilient because of the strength of our network. Our youth leaders depend on each other for community care. Each of their activities centers support and appreciation for one another as they build skills and gain experiences.

At the June 2022 STAND Summit, we took a look at each element of STAND's strategy, including our values, team structure, and activities. Building on examples from other youth movements, and input from our advisors and alumni, we will be updating our programs for 2022-2023.

We will be building an even stronger sense of STAND membership at all levels. A summer team is developing a new orientation program. Our next national campaign will focus on state-level mandates for genocide and Holocaust education, which will bring together our work on advocacy and preventing identity-based violence in the United States. The four Action Committees will work together to educate all members on our priority regions, and we will add Tigray, Ethiopia as a new Education focus.

As our alumni network grows, and we strengthen partnerships with experts, we are building out the STAND Advisory Board to work more directly with and mentor student leaders in each programming area. No matter what challenges the next year brings, we will lean on each other and embody the STAND spirit of community and inclusion.



My favorite part about being a member of the MC is the sense of community that has been created. I love that I can talk to anyone on the team about absolutely anything, and I really like knowing that I can count on anyone for anything that I may need. It has also created friendships that will last a lifetime, and I am extremely grateful for the experience. -MC Member

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2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT



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