



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Advocacy Group Calls for Port of New Orleans to Sever Ties  
with Israeli Port of Ashdod**

**DATE:** Tuesday, February 27th, 2024 at 1:00PM

**LOCATION:** Port of New Orleans, 1350 Port of New Orleans PI, New Orleans, LA 70130

**EVENT:** Public Comment at the monthly Board Meeting of the Port of New Orleans

New Orleans, LA - New Orleans Stop Helping Israel's Ports (NOSHIP), Palestinian New Orleans residents, allies and community members will give public comments on 27 February regarding the continued connections between the Port of New Orleans and the Port of Ashdod in Israel. Immediate demands include ceasing trade with the Port of Ashdod, and ending cultural and economic ties with Israel. These partnerships not only make New Orleans complicit with Israel's genocide in Gaza, but also do not have the support of the New Orleans community, as displayed in recent Palestine solidarity rallies and marches held across the city, attracting crowds of over 6,000 community members.

The Port of New Orleans continues its regular trade and commercial dealings with Israel, despite Gaza's approaching death toll of 30,000 at the hands of the State of Israel. Additionally, Israel's impending offensive against the defenseless population of 2.3 million Palestinians in the overcrowded and last remaining 'safe zone' of Rafah is deeply concerning. This occurs in the context of Israel disregarding judicial rulings aimed at preventing genocide, as highlighted in the ongoing trial at the International Court of Justice. The "Innovation Embassy" recently established between the Port of New Orleans and Port of Ashdod promises to bring Israeli "innovations" to the city, which, within similar agreements in Barcelona, brought only surveillance and policing tactics.

The 27 February proceedings mark the fourth Port Board meeting NOSHIP has delivered public comments, yet the members of the Board have failed to address or respond to the serious concerns continually raised by NOSHIP to these decision-makers. As a public agency, it is the Port's duty to represent the interests of residents of the New Orleans metropolitan area, of whom over 20,000 are Palestinian.



NOSHIP's goal is to amplify the voices of local residents concerned with the misuse of their tax money and public resources that could be better utilized to fit the needs of the region.

### **About the Organization**

NOSHIP (New Orleans Stop Helping Israel's Ports) is a coalition of community leaders throughout New Orleans dedicated to organizing peaceful demonstrations and direct calls to action to end trade, cultural, economic and diplomatic relations between New Orleans and Israel. The group challenges state and national complicity in the 75-year ethnic cleansing of Palestinians including the ongoing genocide of Gazans.