

Resolution on CIA Recruitment at ALA Meetings

Whereas, the American Library Association (ALA), has expressed "...its unwavering opposition to any use of governmental prerogative which leads to the intimidation of the individual or the citizenry from the exercise of the constitutionally protected right of free expression" (originally passed in 1973 and reaffirmed in 2017, ALA Policy Manual B.2.4);

Whereas, the American Library Association has encouraged its members to resist "...improper uses of governmental power" (Also ALA Policy Manual B.2.4);

Whereas, "ALA condemns the use or threat of use of torture by the US government as a barbarous violation of human rights, intellectual freedom and the rule of law" ([A Resolution Against the Use of Torture as a Violation of the American Library Association's Basic Values](#), CD#59, June 30, 2004, passed but missing from Policy Manual);

Whereas, the American Library Association opposes "...the use by government of disinformation, media manipulation, the destruction and excision of public information, and other such tactics" (ALA Policy Manual B.8.9);

Whereas, the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) has used all the methods described above in its work around the world; for example: intimidation of Congressional staff and members of Congress regarding declassification of the 2014 Senate Report on the CIA's Detention and Interrogation Program, the assassinations of many government leaders as detailed in the 1975 Church Committee Report, instigation of coups as detailed in Stephen Kinzer's books, the use of torture from Operation Phoenix in Vietnam to Abu Ghraib Prison in Iraq and Guantanamo Bay in Cuba, the false reports of the Tonkin Bay Incident that led to the Vietnam War, and the false news stories in major media outlets around the world including its own secretly-sponsored news bureau, Forum World Features (1958-1966); and

Whereas, the CIA continues to use many of the methods described above for manipulating foreign elections, overthrowing democratically elected governments, and generally interfering in the affairs of countries around the world; now, therefore be it

Resolved, that the American Library Association (ALA)

1. prohibits CIA recruitment at all ALA conferences and meetings.

Mover: Al Kagan

Secunder: Tom Twiss