

Judge Blocks Deportation of Georgetown Academic with Hamas Ties

A federal judge has blocked the deportation of Georgetown University researcher Badar Khan Suri after the Department of Homeland Security claimed he was “actively spreading Hamas propaganda and promoting antisemitism on social media.”

DHS spokesperson Tricia McLaughlin said Suri has “close connections to a known or suspected terrorist, who is a senior advisor to Hamas. The Secretary of State issued a determination on March 15, 2025 that Suri’s activities and presence in the United States rendered him deportable under INA section 237(a)(4)(C)(i).”

Suri was a foreign exchange student at Georgetown University actively spreading Hamas propaganda and promoting antisemitism on social media.

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– Tricia McLaughlin (@TriciaOhio) March 20, 2025

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Judge Patricia Tolliver Giles of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia has since issued a temporary block on Suri’s deportation, stating that the researcher “shall not be removed from the United States unless and until the Court issues a contrary order.”

Suri’s March 18 complaint stated he was detained by DHS agents

upon returning to his home in Virginia. "The agents identified themselves as members of the Department of Homeland Security and stated that the government had revoked his visa," the complaint said.

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The complaint alleges DHS sought to "retaliate against and punish noncitizens like Mr. Suri solely for their family ties to those who may have either expressed criticism of U.S. foreign policy as it relates to Israel."

A school spokesperson told CBS News that Georgetown University is unaware of any engagement in illegal activity.

"We support our community members' rights to free and open inquiry, deliberation and debate, even if the underlying ideas may be difficult, controversial or objectionable," the spokesperson said. "We expect the legal system to adjudicate this case fairly."

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