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Views expressed in the opinion pages are those of the individual writer and not of the newspaper.

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Land Acknowledgment  
The Rampage operates in and around the Indigenous lands of the Yokuts and Mono peoples, we respect and honor the displaced and forgotten people that make our work possible on this campus and across many others.

“They (the district) were a little fuzzy on that, but the idea was that ICE would not be on campus unless they had already gotten permission from both the administration and the campus police. And so it was advised that we weren't there to read warrants, and that it was going to be the president or the campus police that would be the ones to read the warrants,” said Santa Rosa.

Instructors were also notified that classrooms are non-public spaces, so they could hypothetically deny access to them if they didn't have a judicial warrant, according to Santa Rosa.

Non-public spaces on campus are designated areas that are only offered to students and faculty, acting as a safe space in the case ICE is on campus, according to FCC's Associated Student Government's Instagram.

Signage on doors of these non-public spaces have been put up by the campus with pressure from both community members, faculty and students, but Santa Rosa said that not all non-public spaces are indicated with signage.

Shirley believes that this policy is confusing because the locations in which this is enforced are not clear.

“The only buildings that are included are the new science and old science buildings, and then also the Applied Technologies buildings,” Shirley said.

“You could be most places on campus, because most people have classes that are either GE or they're going for specific things, trying to get a little bit of credits for an associate degree or something like that. And they're not going to be protected by those non-public area signs, to my knowledge,” Shirley said.

Separate from the petition, the MEChA club has vocalized their student demands through surveying students regarding their stance on the ICE protocol.

Continued from pg.1

“We believe that whatever change could be made on behalf of students must be agreed upon among students, we as a club, don't have a complete answer for how that should look, but we do want policy to be more proactive in protecting students and to have zero tolerance for this violence from ICE,” Arion Grajeda, a MEChA member, said.

This survey was conducted to gauge the level of awareness students have on the protocol and if they feel it's effective for their safety.

In their survey result slides, MEChA prefaced that the responses reflect the “discontent with the protocol and the recognition of the irresponsibility of the district's request for compliance.”

In a voluntary response survey they conducted across the campus, 122 people responded. Concerning the topic of ICE, they asked students if they felt safe on campus, to which 71.3% of people responded yes while 28.7% responded no.

In another question that asked if students would feel protected by the campus police department in the event of an ICE altercation, 71.3% of people responded no and 28.7% responded yes.

In their slides, MEChA breaks down this response by explaining “a protocol which hinges on student's trust of law enforcement cannot function if that trust is not there to begin with.”

“In the event of an interaction with ICE, there would be no chance for anybody to hit the emergency call button, or for a student or faculty member to be able to pull out their phones, because as we're seeing, you can't do that without being slammed on the floor,” Grajeda said.

MEChA approaches creating effective change by encouraging self-education on the protocol and ICE activity, and student outreach as it “builds power amongst

those who are oppressed,” according to Grajeda.

“In our case, it's you know, students here on campus who will be most affected by the Trump administration and its agenda of violence through ICE,” Grajeda said.

Oscar Claro-Ramos, another MEChA member, encouraged community involvement.

“If they're trying to break our communities apart, then we should be working on the opposite. We should be building community. We should be building connections between students. We should be less unfamiliar with each other,” Claro-Ramos said.

Many of the students in the survey had misconceptions regarding what the ICE protocol is, and some assumed that the campus will be proactive in safeguarding them, according to Ramos.

“A lot of people who came up and talked to us were like, ‘Wait, I thought the Central Valley was like a sanctuary for immigrants,’ and that ain't the case,” Claro-Ramos said. “That's dangerous, because if there's no sense of danger, there's no sense of urgency, and then there's no sense of like a plan, if this, when this, inevitably does happen.”

Based on the survey results, MEChA will be offering teach-ins to inform students about ICE enforcement and agencies with the goal of building community and voice frustration or concerns.

Their first teach-in will be on-campus Feb. 26 in room LL-107. Another teach-in will be off campus on Feb. 26 at St. Dulce 1445 N. Van Ness Ave. Both are from 2-5 p.m.

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# IRAN'S Call for Change

Jonah Kwock | Reporter  
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Pressure mounts in Iran as protests break out, sparked by the value of the Iranian rial dropping to 1.42 million rials per \$1 United States by Dec. 2025. This is a significant devaluation of nearly 45% throughout the year. With the decline, many Iranian citizens cannot afford essential household items. As protests intensified, demonstrations became deadly.

Around Fresno City College campus, many were unaware of the magnitude of these demonstrations.

### Overview of Protests

The initial protests originated in Iran's capital of Tehran on Dec. 28, 2025. Merchants and shopkeepers congregated in bazaars to voice their disapproval. As the protests continued they grew to unprecedented size. Within a week, demonstrations appeared all over Iranian cities, rural and urban, flooding the streets as citizens demanded a regime change. According to the Foundation for Defense of Democracies (FDD), Iran's rial has declined in value by more than 90% since 2018, pushing once middle class families to poverty.

At the start of these demonstrations Iranian authorities were sympathetic to their population with the Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian publicly acknowledging the hardships Iranian citizens endured. However, Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei shifted all

the blame of economic hardship onto the country's enemies.

Sanctions placed by the United States and United Nations do play a large role with the rapid inflation. Iran's government can't agree on deals with countries that would help dilute these sanctions.

### Nationwide Blackout

The Iranian government turned to using military force against the protesters, causing the revolution to be put on a halt according to the New York Times. A nationwide blackout caused by Iranian authorities blocked all internet access to the Iranian population. Blocking access to the outside world.

The blackout was the longest in the country's history, counting over 400 hours.

The last time Iran used a nationwide blackout was during the country's 12-day war with Israel in June, 2025. This war with Israel and the US devastated many of Iran's nuclear facilities and killed many top officials according to AP News.

The United States could strike Iran currently, however a deal is still trying to be made. US forces were quickly stationed in the Middle East waiting for a signal and Israel's prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu could join in the attack according to the NY Times.

### Aftermath of blackout

When videos started surfacing after the blackout on Jan. 11, it was clear heavy military force was used. Videos started to emerge showing the aftermath of the government crackdown.

Footage obtained by the NY Times shows families standing outside of a Morgue in Tehran identifying loved ones in body bags.

Casualties go from 3,000, according to the Iranian government, to over 32,000 reported by President Donald Trump on Feb. 20. Because of the internet blackout and Iran's lack of transparency, it's hard to estimate how many lives were lost.

According to the Human Rights Activists News Agency (HRANA), a group that focuses on reporting repressions in Iran, over 7,015 have been confirmed dead and over 17,000 deaths are under investigation.

The Iranian streets have been recently filled with small scale student protests at Iranian colleges according to the BBC.

The protests in Iran have led to mass shootings and civilians being held hostage in their homes by security forces, according to the New York Post.

While many students failed to recognize the grievances, FCC student Frank Orozco gave his perspective on the demonstrations saying, “It's a terrible thing...all I can think to myself is how lucky I am to be where I am.”

FCC currently has no club or program specifically for Middle Eastern students as of Feb. 21.



A graphic shows protesters holding a sign that says “No war on Iran” with the Iranian flag in the background. Graphic by Collins Tanomkhum.

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