

## UEA Student Union Council Agenda



**Location:** Lecture Theatre 3

**Date:** 23/11/20123

**Time:** 5pm

Chair: Chanel Munroe

Deputy Chair: Ali Sabba

DPC: Serene Shibli Sexton, Matthew Mclaughlan, Erin Whitby,  
Oscar Welchman, Oscar Welchman, Harvey Rose, Josh Bell,  
William Ballantyne, Charlotte Miller

### Useful Information:

#### Code of conduct

All students are members of the union, and so should behave appropriately in line with our Code of Conduct.

<https://www.ueasu.org/union/memberscodeofconduct/>

#### Expenses

Remember – the Union (of UEA students) may be able to reimburse you for travel or career expenses that you incur attending this meeting. Please contact

[su.voice@uea.ac.uk](mailto:su.voice@uea.ac.uk) for more details.

<https://www.ueasu.org/democracy/unioncouncil/councilinfo/>

#### Articles of Association and Bye-laws

The Union's governing document, the Articles of Association, and its rule book, the Bye-Laws, can be found by here:

<https://www.ueasu.org/union/governance/constitution/>

#### Support For writing policy

Information on how to write policy and the policy template is available here:

<https://www.ueasu.org/democracy/unioncouncil/writingpolicy/>

#### How to access the online meeting facility

If you cannot attend in person on Thursday and would like to use the online facility, please join via the Teams link in your Outlook calendar. If you have any issues accessing this, please email [su.voice@uea.ac.uk](mailto:su.voice@uea.ac.uk).

#### Attendance

Full list of union councillors can be found here:

<https://www.ueasu.org/democracy/unioncouncil/listofunioncouncillors/>

#### Quorum

“1.15 Business shall not be conducted by the Union Council:

1.15.1 unless over 40 representatives are present at a meeting;”

No.	Agenda Items:	Page No.
1.	<b>House Keeping</b>	<b>3.</b>
	Statements from the Chair:	3.
	Minutes of the Last Meeting	3.
	Matters Arising	3.
2.	<b>Reports</b>	<b>3.</b>
	a) Trustee board report	4.
	b) Student Officer committee (SOC) report	4.
	c) Full-time Officer reports	4.
3.	<b>Open Discussion</b>	<b>5.</b>
4.	<b>Approval of Policy Papers</b>	<b>5.</b>
	a) Policy Lapse	5.
	b) Separate the public from the powerful: Bye law 12 Amendment.	11.
	c) Until Palestine is free, none of us are!	13.
5.	<b>Approval of Society and Peer Groups</b>	<b>18.</b>
6.	<b>Any Other Business (AOB)</b>	<b>18.</b>
7.	<b>Details of the next meeting</b>	<b>18.</b>

## 1. House Keeping

Statements from the Chair:

*To* Increase in the number of accesses breaks

*Receive* Reminder of the importance of trigger warnings

Chair and deputy chair to step down while proposing and seconding motions

To note that because of the close proximity of the Council dates, officer reports shall be submitted verbally

Minutes of the Last Meeting

*To* The committee is asked to check the minutes for accuracy.

*Approve*

The minutes of the previous meeting held on November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023:

<https://ueanorwich.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/ueasuunioncouncil/ERVj4efdVShBIV4omgz5NNYBY-lZoKrmmpA8Ewca7YV6DQ?e=pqgswP>

Matters Arising

*To* Committee members are invited to note the matters arising from the previous meeting. The action log will be updated at the next SOC meeting, officers are requested to note their actions and bring updates to the next meeting.

*Consider*

Meeting	Action Point	Actioned to	Update	Date complete
23/11/2023	To take all motions passed to Union Council and discuss their implementation at next SOC	C&D Officer	This was done and an update will be given by the chair of SOC	30/11/23

## 2. Reports

*To* An opportunity for all Officers to verbally update the Committee on their work to date and their plans for the term ahead.

*Receive and Discuss*

Trustee board report – Taylor Sounes

*To Note:* The Trustee Board is the governing body of the Union and is responsible for setting the strategy of the Union, ensuring its good governance, overseeing its financial performance and its legal compliance. The Board is made up of Student Officers, Student Trustees elected by Union Council and four outside external expert Trustees. The Chair who is a Student Officer reports to Council and you can scrutinise the work of the Trustees and hold them to account.

*A verbal report to be given*

Approved minutes of all meetings of the Board can be viewed online here

<https://www.ueasu.org/union/governance/trusteeboarddocuments/>

**Student Officer Committee (SOC) report -TBC**

*To Note:* The elected Student Officers meet as the Student Officer Committee (SOC) where they decide on how to run campaigns and on how to implement the policies passed by Union Council. This section is your chance to scrutinise the work of SOC and to hold the Student Officers to account for the work they have been doing on your behalf.

*A verbal report to be given*

Approved minutes of all meetings of SOC can be viewed online

<https://www.ueasu.org/officers/>.

**Full-time Officer reports**

**Activities and Opportunities Officer – Luke Johnson**

*A verbal report to be given*

**Campaigns and Democracy Officer – Serene Shibli Sexton**

*A verbal report to be given*

**Postgraduate Officer – Elise Page**

*A verbal report to be given*

**Undergraduate Education Officer – Taylor Sounes**

*A verbal report to be given*

**Welfare, Community, and Diversity Officer – Nathan Wyatt**

*A verbal report to be given*

**3. Open Discussion**

*To Note:* Time set for group discussion and direct student consultation that can ultimately influence policy and Union strategy. Union Council representatives may request items for open discussion with the Chair before the agenda deadline.

*To Discuss* For this meeting we will be looking at:

n/a – no special discussion piece chosen by SOC

**4. Policy Making**

*To Note:* Submitting an amendment

If you would look to propose an amendment to any of the resolutions, please send it to the proposer and the Chair at the earliest opportunity before the meeting to see if the proposer is willing to incorporate it into their resolution. Please email your amendment to [su.voice@uea.ac.uk](mailto:su.voice@uea.ac.uk). and inform us whether it was accepted or rejected by the proposer. The deadline for amendments is 48 hours before the start of the meeting.

*To Note:* All current Union Policy is available online here

<https://www.ueasu.org/democracy/unionpolicy/>

**a) Policy Lapse**

Each year, we have a clean-up of all the policies that have been passed over the last two academic years. Policies automatically lapse unless Council votes to keep them. In accordance with the bye laws, Council has to reevaluate our policies every two years. We have gone through the policies passed and renewed over the 2021/22 academic year which are now due to lapse. All the policies due to lapse are included in this document. I have given a short description of each of the policies and reasons for our recommendations. Please have a look through these and have a think about what your constituents would wish to have lapse, readopted as policy, or set as policy precedent. If you find any policies that you think we should debate that are different to my recommendations, please let the Chair know and they will be considered and voted on separately. If you have any questions drop me an email [s.shibli-sexton@Uea.ac.uk](mailto:s.shibli-sexton@Uea.ac.uk)

Serene Shibli Sexton, Campaigns and Democracy Officer

Link to all Policies referenced below: [2023 Policy Lapse Recommendations.pdf](#)  
[combine pdf of Policy Laps motions](#)

Colour code for the recommendations	What the recommendations means
	Keep the policy
	Policy precedent
	Scrap the policy

To Vote:

Policies to Renew		
Title	What the policy is about	Reason for recommendation
Fund the Menstruation Station, Fight Period Poverty on Our Campus	For the union to continue to lobby for period products being available across campus and available in union house	There is a cost-of-living crisis and now more than ever it is important there is a mandate for officers to ensure no students on campus suffer from period poverty
High Time for Harm Reduction	Harm Reduction approach to drugs recognises that some students will always use drugs. This seeks to provide open and direct information to students with regards to addiction, overdose, and other harmful consequences, including the provision of drug testing kits so that students can make informed decisions about what they choose to do.	<p>-we don't have the same drug policy as the university because theirs is very punitive and we won't have a data sharing agreement or a combined drug policy with them until they change their stance</p> <p>- having a mandate to campaign from when lobbying is good and useful</p> <p>-we should be working from a harm reduction perspective in the university</p>
True accessibility is already there, we shouldn't have to ask: Alternative text	lobby the university to offer training to all teaching staff on how to add Alternative text, and the importance of doing so	This is ongoing and while many staff do provide alternative text, many students aren't aware of this and don't know how to access this so more

		awareness is still needed and with lecture capture and other systems coming in to improve accessibility the importance of raising awareness of accessibility is still paramount
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To vote:

Policies for Precedent		
Title	What the policy is about	Reason for recommendation
Decolonise UEA	To mandate the Students' Union to continue its work on Decolonise UEA and lobby the university to improve representation and diversity amongst academic staff and ensure that the curriculum is reflective of its student experience	<p>This reflects core values to the SU:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensuring all students feel a sense of belonging at UEA.</li> <li>• Ensuring students have the best educational experience possible.</li> <li>• That we have a Diverse, Equitable and inclusive environment at UEA.</li> </ul> <p>This is an ongoing issue that needs consistent advocacy – however the resolves are not asking for time specific issues or campaigns to be enacted so is appropriate for policy precedent</p>

To discuss and vote:

Policies to debate		
Title	What the policy is about	Reason for recommendation
We're Bugging You: Equality and Diversity training for all Students	Introduce mandatory equality and diversity training for all union councillors	Good idea in principle, very hard to implement, basic training for Union Council Reps is given every year and recordings of the training are made available however not all

Union Council Reprs		<p>Union council reps do that as is.</p> <p>Training given to committee members and other resources is available on the SU website's committee hub that is available to all students</p>
Allow Associate Tutors to Supervise Dissertations at Undergraduate Level	to campaign with and for Associate Tutors to allow them to supervise dissertations at undergraduate level.	Undergrads spoken to feel supportive of AT's as supervisors, but it is unclear if AT's still want this to be lobbied for
Better defining anti-Semitism, amending policy	To adopt the Jerusalem Declaration on Anti-Semitism (JDA) definition of anti-Semitism to prevent and categorise anti-Semitism against Jewish students and staff.	<p>It's now in the Bye laws.</p> <p>This is separate to the Bye Law change.</p> <p>This should be debate because it has recently come up as a topic at Union Council</p>
The real cost of being a student	To mandate the officers to work to reduce the costs of being a student at UEA including: Reassessment fees; printing; DBS checks and placement fees; sports costs and laundrette costs.	<p>A very good motion in principle but much of it is out of date/ no longer relevant.</p> <p>It may be worth rejecting it but officers working together to bring a similar motion to council focussing on the parts of it that are still issues</p>

To discuss:

Policies to Allow to Lapse		
Title	What the policy is about	Reason for recommendation
Proper Silent Spaces	To lobby the university to make a	We have a quiet space on campus!



	commitment to funding accessible, sound-proof, silent spaces for students	Completed!
Policy to Establish a 'Quiet Space' in the former Nap Nook	To lobby the university to make a commitment to funding accessible, sound-proof, silent spaces for students	We have a quiet space on campus! Completed!
Amendment to "Policy to Establish a 'Quiet Space' in the former Nap Nook"	This motion moves to amend the policy to establish the 'Quiet Space' to resolve issues arising from discussion in the Union Council meeting in which the policy was passed, and subsequent work towards the room.	We have a quiet space on campus! Completed!
Emergency motion: Support NUS Walkout	To affirm SU support for an NUS student walkout	Very time specific, no longer relevant
Changing officer name and amendment to the Bye laws 4.3: The officer remit for the Postgraduate Education Officer	Changing Postgraduate Education Officer to Postgraduate officer to better reflect the work undertaken by the officer.	Completed!
Amendment to Bye laws 1.10.7, and 1.29, What Happens to our Motions?	The current Bye laws encouraging feeding back to Council are not functioning as intended. Ensuring that motion progress is feedback to union council	Completed!

Amendment to the Articles of Association: To increase the number of External Trustees by 1	To amend the trustee board membership in our constitution to allow for a larger board	-this has been recognised and passed at trustee level -there is a governance review ongoing so the size of the board may come under further scrutiny, and this will no longer be relevant
(Amendment to Bye laws 1,2, & 8) Codifying Society Approvals	A motion to codify the existing procedure of Society approval in council, in order to make it clearer for all involved and to make chairing council a more accessible prospect.	-this has been recognised and passed at trustee level
A Generation of Lifesavers	lobby the university to implement a policy that will ensure all students are taught Basic Life Support (BLS) during their time at UEA	This is a very old policy and while good in principle it's almost impossible to achieve, the training is very long and intensive and I question if student's still feel committed to this policy as a priority in the same way as when passed,  Rejected for lack achievability and relevance
Amendment to the byelaw 10: The budget definitions	To change how often budgets need to be taken to Union Council	Relevance- this Bye law has been rewritten since this motion was submitted
Changes to course reps and convenors: Amendment to the bye laws	To make changes to the by-laws in relation to convenor bursaries and also introduce the code of conduct for course reps as mandated last year	Relevance- this Bye law has been rewritten since this motion was submitted and the course rep system is currently under review
A Smoke-Free UEA	Mandate the Campaigns and	This is an old motion that without the original proposers

<p>Amendment to A Smoke-Free UEA</p>	<p>Democracy Officer to lobby the university to implement smoke free “zones” on campus.</p> <p>mandate the Welfare, Community and Diversity Officer to set up a focus group to investigate how best to implement a health improvement scheme.</p>	<p>it is unclear in how it was meant to be implemented.</p> <p>It would also be difficult to enforce in a way that would be beneficial to students without disproportionately being a sink of resources</p>
<p>Transparency of Process and Communication for Associate Tutor Applications</p>	<p>designed to address issues in communication between staff and the University. Recently, and with personal experience, there has been a distinct lack of transparency between those assigning and those assigned teaching. Many teachers were not given teaching until two weeks before the module is due to start. This policy seeks to design better communication practices and organisational practices to allow for better understanding of the teaching allocation process.</p>	<p>Recommended to lapse due to questioning the relevancy of this policy rather than the issue it deals with. It’s an old policy and the solutions it sets out may not be fit for purpose almost 5 years later</p>

To vote:

**b) Separate the Public from The Powerful: Bye Law 12 Amendment.**

<p><b>Motion Name</b> Separate the Public from The Powerful: Bye Law 12 Amendment.  <b>Proposer:</b> Callum Heath (Union rep- History society)  <b>Seconder:</b> Chanel Munroe (Union Council Chair)</p>
<p><b>Summary:</b> Following the passing of the <i>Separate the public from powerful</i> motion during last union council (23/11/23), it’s clear that the majority of the UEA student body is rightly</p>

committed to distinguishing ordinary civilians from the actions of their governments. However, in the light of rising discrimination of particular groups both at UEA and the UK, it's clear that a tougher stance is needed. By codifying the separation of ordinary civilians including students from the activities of their government into the UEASU Byelaws and code of conduct, students will be given extra protection to prevent them from discrimination, particularly in the light of present conflicts.

**Council Notes:**

- The passing of *Separate the public from the powerful motion* during November's union council (23/11/23) demonstrated a commitment from the SU union council to mandate student welfare in the light of rising discrimination part motivated by present conflicts. (1)
- The Hamas attacks on Israel on the 7<sup>th</sup> of October caused a rise in cases of Islamophobia and Antisemitism both in UEA and the UK. The Community Security Trust counted the highest rates of antisemitism since records began in 1984. 1,019 hate crimes were recorded in the UK in the month of October, likely to increase by December. (2) Islamophobic incidents have increased 600% since the Hamas attacks. (3)
- Hamas, defined as a terrorist group by the UK government, have used innocent civilians in Gaza and Israel to push their divisive agenda. (4)
- The main cause of democratic decline in the world is wars and coups caused by illiberal incumbents who are not representative of the civilians of their country. In 2023, 84/195 countries surveyed had fully democratic governments according to the *Freedom in the World survey*. (5) It must be noted that even democratic countries do not represent the views of every citizen.

**Council Believes:**

- You cannot hold the public accountable for the actions or views of their respective government, regardless of the extent at which democratic norms are met.
- To prevent holding people accountable for their government's actions and views, concrete policy measures are required including disciplinary action.
- Discrimination against nationality needs to be viewed separately but with equal worth to discrimination against race.
- Terrorist groups will never represent the views of citizens, regardless of their claims.
- Conflict should never be used to promote discrimination against national and religious groups.
- The SU byelaws are the strongest way to promote the principle of separating the public from the actions of governments.
- Students encouraging violent uprisings against national groups are not representative of the student body.
- The code of conduct, while correctly ensuring racism does not spread, needs to make clearer discrimination against nationalities, especially when concerning the activities of non-representative governments.

**Council Resolves:**

- **Add the following to byelaw 12 section 2.18 (Examples of racial harassment):**

- 1.) Assuming or mocking a person's beliefs and attitudes based on their national identity
- 2.) Refusing to communicate with a student because of their national identity or background

3.) Holding students accountable for actions or beliefs held by their or any other national governments, including students from democratic countries

4.) Advocating the incitement of violence towards any specific, racial, ethnic, or national group

- **Add to Code of Conduct section (Byelaw 12- Section freedom of speech):**

1.) Reminds members that advocacy or support for terrorist groups defined by the UK government is not protected under freedom of speech and is illegal under UK law. (6)

And to renumber the bye laws accordingly

**Sources:**

[1. Updated Union Council Agenda Nov 23.pdf](https://www.theguardian.com/news/2023/nov/03/record-number-hate-incidents-british-jews-reported-amas-attacks) (1)

<https://www.theguardian.com/news/2023/nov/03/record-number-hate-incidents-british-jews-reported-amas-attacks> (2)

<https://www.itv.com/news/2023-11-09/i-was-terrified-islamophobic-incidents-up-by-600-in-uk-since-amas-attack> (3)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-59346441>

<https://theconversation.com/how-amas-weaponised-palestinians-despair-215468> (4)

<https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-world/2023/marking-50-years> (5)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/proscribed-terror-groups-or-organisations--2/proscribed-terrorist-groups-or-organisations-accessible-version> (6)

<https://www.ueasu.org/pageassets/union/memberscodeofconduct/Code-of-conduct-bye-law-12-FINAL.pdf> - UEASU CODE OF CONDUCT

<https://www.ueasu.org/pageassets/union/governance/constitution/Bye-Laws-October-2019-Version.pdf> - UEASU BYELAWS 2019

To vote:

**c) Until Palestine is free, none of us are!**

<b>Motion title:</b> Until Palestine is free, none of us are!
<b>Proposer:</b> Ali Sabba – <i>Non-Portfolio Officer</i> <b>Seconder:</b> Ameer Al-Magidi – <i>President of Arab Society</i>
<b>Summary:</b> This motion affirms solidarity with Palestinian liberation and supports the struggle against occupation. To achieve this, the Students’ Union must challenge and oppose systems of oppression against Palestine and campaign to support Palestinian freedom, including support of the BDS movement (as dictated by existing Union Policy), holding Universities and Government accountable and promoting freedom of speech whilst ensuring the welfare of students from all backgrounds.
<b>Council Notes:</b> 1. This motion is written with collective compassion for the loss of innocent Palestinian and Israeli lives, as well as those in surrounding areas. There is huge collective grief, and our deepest condolences go out to anyone who has lost loved ones. 2. The Israel-Palestine conflict is one of the longest ongoing conflicts in the world and has recently intensified over the last few months. Thousands of Palestinians have been killed by Israeli security forces historically and

in recent years, including 'Operation Cast Lead' 2008-09 and 'Operation Protective Edge', 2014. 200 Palestinian people were killed this year prior to events on 7th October, and the number of Palestinians killed in Israeli bombardment surpasses 20,000 since then.

3. 120 countries, constituting more than two-thirds of the United Nations General Assembly, have called for a humanitarian truce in Gaza and the United Kingdom declined to do so. (1)
4. Reports that the Israeli government is committing crimes against humanity in Gaza, including collective punishment, ethnic cleansing, and unfolding genocide. This includes multiple UN special rapporteurs, Palestinian human rights organisations, Jewish civil society groups, and hundreds of Holocaust and genocide studies scholars. The International Criminal Court has been formally asked to investigate the unfolding genocide in Gaza.  
(2)(3)(4)(5)(6)
5. Israel operates as an apartheid state, as affirmed by nine UN special rapporteurs, Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International, Israeli human rights organisations, including Yesh Din and B'Tselem, and Palestinian human rights organisations, including Al-Haq and Addameer. This has been reaffirmed by the Anglican Church of South Africa and the South African government, who have cited their own bitter experience of apartheid as expertise. (7)(8)(9)(10)(11)(12) (13)
6. Israel is supported by western governments including the UK and the US who offer military, economic and political support. Since the Conservative government was elected in May 2015, the UK has licenced over £472m worth of arms to Israeli forces. In 2022, the US committed \$3.3 billion in foreign assistance to Israel with 99.7% going to the Israeli military. (14)(15)(16)
7. The UK government has tabled an 'anti-boycott bill' that, if passed, could dramatically affect the ability to campaign for social and climate justice in the UK and around the world.  
(17)
8. Palestinian Trade Unions call to halt the arms trade to Israel and to end crimes against humanity including:
  - a. The deliberate bombing of civilian homes, universities, schools and hospitals;
  - b. The blockade of water, food, medical supplies and fuel;
  - c. The proposal by Israel's Ministry of Intelligence for the forced expulsion of more than two million human beings into the Egyptian desert. (18)
9. A report by BRISMES and ELSC of The Adverse Impact of the IHRA Definition of Antisemitism, which conflates legitimate criticism of the state of Israel and its policies with anti-Jewish racism.  
(19)

**Council Believes:**

1. For the last 75 years Palestinians have faced Israeli settler colonial dispossession, ethnic cleansing, military occupation and apartheid, which

has been supported by western imperialism and has led to the latest conflict.

2. Conflating the legitimate criticism of the Israeli government with anti-Jewish racism undermines the possibility of demonstrating solidarity with the Palestinian struggle against oppression and undermines freedom of speech and academic freedom.
3. None of our Palestinian, Israeli, Jewish, Muslim, or other student communities are responsible for the actions of the Israeli state or of Hamas and racial discrimination should be fought against and rejected.
4. That global boycotts are a non-violent, legitimate, and effective tactic that assisted in the successful struggle against apartheid in South Africa.
5. Universities and Students' Unions have a duty to promote freedom of speech and academic freedom, including expressions of support for Palestine.
6. UEASU should actively engage with and support campaigns and initiatives that align with the principles of the BDS movement, encouraging ethical consumer choices and divestment actions to hold those complicit in human rights violations accountable and promote justice and equality for the Palestinian people.

#### **Council Resolves:**

For the SU, in keeping with the SU charitable objectives and the parameters of the law, to:

1. declare its solidarity with the struggle of the Palestinian people against occupation and their aims of seeking their right to self-determination.
2. call for an immediate end to the genocidal violence in Gaza and to call on its members to support and campaign for Palestinian liberation and the aim for peace and justice for Palestine.
3. condemn the conflict being used to insight islamophobia or antisemitism and to support students who face discrimination.
4. encourage constructive dialogue and respectful discourse within the UEASU community regarding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, aiming for a deeper understanding of diverse perspectives and fostering an environment that promotes empathy, tolerance, and informed discussion.
5. collaborate with pro-Palestinian organisers in efforts to organize events, seminars, and workshops, supporting platforms for the Palestinian voices, and the creation of spaces for students to learn more about the Palestinian cause.
6. ensure that it provides a supportive environment that upholds democratic values, diversity of thought, and the right to express opinions freely, including advocating for justice and freedom for Palestine so its members may express their views on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and related issues without fear of punishment or censorship, in accordance with the principles of academic freedom and freedom of expression.
7. affirm that Student Union (SU) officers, have the right to express their personal views and opinions on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict without

being compelled to remain neutral, recognizing that individuals can hold opinions while fulfilling their responsibilities, in alignment with the principles of freedom of expression and to condemn any attempts to suppress or penalize SU officers for expressing their views on Palestine, the Israeli occupation, or related matters within the parameters of the law.

8. recognise Palestinian Remembrance Day (Nakba Day) on May 15 each year, and the importance of educational events and activities that raise awareness about the Nakba and its ongoing impact.
9. affirm its commitments and renew legacy policies including Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS), movement and Opposition to Prevent. (20)(21)
10. submit this motion to the National Union of Students and call on it to publicly support the Palestinian struggle and oppose British imperialism's role in the oppression of the Palestinian people
11. Call upon the VC and University to uphold the institutional principles of civic responsibility to our university and global community and oppose systems of oppression against Palestine and protect student and staff freedom of speech in light of state intervention. Including:
  - a. To reject threats by the UK government to revoke the immigration status of
  - b. foreign nationals who express support for Palestine and to protect students and staff from attacks on their freedom of speech.
  - c. to develop anti-racism policies that address the shared logic of dehumanisation that underlies all forms of racism.
  - d. engage with academic institutions in Palestine, fostering collaborations and partnerships that enhance academic exchanges, research, and educational opportunities for Palestinian and UEA students and faculty.
  - e. to reintroduce their University of Sanctuary scholarship and introduce a Humanitarian Scholarship as other institutions have, aligning with of the university's title as a university of sanctuary. (22)(23)(24)
  - f. to acknowledge that a critique of the state of Israel should not be conflated with anti-Jewish racism and so revoke the IHRA definition of antisemitism
  - g. to adopt BDS's economic boycott as laid out by BDS. (25)
  - h. to not bank with Barclays due to ethical concerns related to Barclays' alleged support or involvement in activities associated with Israeli settlements, potential human rights issues, and a desire to align banking practices with the university's ethical principles and the expectations of its stakeholders.
12. engage with local and national authorities, advocating for policies and actions that promote justice, human rights, and peace in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, including urging the UK government to take a proactive role in facilitating a just and equitable resolution to the conflict.
13. Campaign for the right to boycott and resist the Economic Activity of Public Bodies (Overseas Matters) Bill



14. To condemn the British government's unquestioning support for the Israeli state and the distortions of the mainstream media in Britain in its coverage of this conflict and support the call from Palestinian Trade Unions to halt the arms trade to Israel. (26)
15. To support efforts to hold political leaders accountable for aiding and abetting war crimes in Gaza. (27)

#### References:

1. [UN General Assembly adopts Gaza resolution calling for immediate and sustained 'humanitarian truce' | UN News](#)
2. [Gaza: UN experts decry bombing of hospitals and schools as crimes against humanity, call for prevention of genocide - Question of Palestine](#)
3. [Urgent Action: Palestinian Human Rights Organisations Call on Third States to Urgently Intervene to Protect the Palestinian People Against Genocide \(alhaq.org\)](#)
4. [URGENT: Stop genocide against Palestinians in Gaza \(call now\) - JVP \(jewishvoiceforpeace.org\)](#)
5. [Public Statement: Scholars Warn of Potential Genocide in Gaza – TWAILR](#)
6. [Dirco: Israel is committing genocide against Palestinians \(businesslive.co.za\)](#)
7. [Special Rapporteur Says Israel's Unlawful Carceral Practices in the Occupied Palestinian Territory Are Tantamount to International Crimes and Have Turned it into an Open-Air Prison | OHCHR](#)
8. [A Threshold Crossed: Israeli Authorities and the Crimes of Apartheid and Persecution | HRW](#)
9. [MDE1551412022ENGLISH.pdf \(amnesty.org\)](#)
10. [The Occupation of the West Bank and the Crime of Apartheid: Legal Opinion - Yesh Din \(yesh-din.org\)](#)
11. [This is apartheid: The Israeli regime promotes and perpetuates Jewish supremacy between the Mediterranean Sea and the Jordan River | B'Tselem \(btselem.org\)](#)
12. [Anglican Church of Southern Africa declares Israel an apartheid state | Middle East Eye](#)
13. [South Africa calls for Israel to be declared an 'apartheid state' | News | Al Jazeera](#)
14. [The UK supports Israel's right to self-defence in line with the UN Charter: UK statement at the UN Security Council - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
15. [UK arms Israel as it bombards Gaza \(declassifieduk.org\)](#)
16. [How much aid does the US give to Israel? - USAFacts](#)
17. [Right to Boycott | Protect the right to boycott](#)
18. [Palestinian Trade Unions Call for an End to Arming Israel - MERIP](#)
19. [Freedom of Speech and Academic Freedom in UK Higher Education- BRISMES-ELSC.pdf](#)
20. <https://www.ueasu.org/pageassets/democracy/unionpolicy/1714-Palestine.pdf>
21. <https://www.ueasu.org/pageassets/democracy/unionpolicy/2084-Sanctuary-Campus.pdf>
22. <https://www.manchester.ac.uk/study/international/finance-and-scholarships/funding/humanitarian-scholarship/>
23. <https://www.brookes.ac.uk/study/funding/gaza-scholarship>

<p>24. <a href="https://www.uea.ac.uk/study/fees-and-funding/scholarships/university-of-sanctuary-scholarship">https://www.uea.ac.uk/study/fees-and-funding/scholarships/university-of-sanctuary-scholarship</a></p> <p>25. <a href="https://bdsmovement.net/economic-boycott">https://bdsmovement.net/economic-boycott</a></p> <p>26. <a href="#">Palestinian Trade Unions Call for an End to Arming Israel - MERIP</a></p> <p>27. <a href="#">Prime Minister warned of intention to prosecute UK government officials for complicity in war crimes in Gaza – ICJP (icjpalestine.com)</a></p>
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**5. Approval of Society and Peer Groups**

*To Note:* After submission of the student group application pack, new society and peer support group constitutions are discussed at a meeting of the Societies Executive which makes a recommendation as to whether the group should be approved. Council will vote on the following:

- a) Accepting the recommendations of the Societies Executive in block.
- b) Considering a group outside of the block. Arguments can be made as to why Council may not agree with the recommendation of the Societies Executive, meaning the group should be discussed separately.
- c) Approving or rejecting a group outside of the block. Arguments can be made as to whether the group should be approved or rejected.

*To Vote:* No Societies up for approval

**6. Any other business**

*To Note:* Any other business items are matters which representatives could not have become aware of before the agenda deadline. These items can be requested from the Chair up to 24 hours before the start of the meeting.

*To Consider* No proposed AOBS

**7. Details of the next meeting**

*To Note:* The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2024  
 The deadline for motions to this meeting is Monday 12<sup>nd</sup> February 2024  
**See you all next year!**