

## Resolutions from NEC

<b>Author:</b>	Motions and amendments submitted by individual NEC members
<b>Meeting date:</b>	08/06/2018
<b>Meeting of:</b>	National Executive Council
<b>Summary:</b>	Resolutions agreed by NUS National Executive Council

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## Motion 101: 70 Years of Injustice: Freedom for Palestine

**Proposed by:** Ilyas Nagdee

Aliya Yule, Rachel O'Brien, Jess Bradley, Sarah Gillborn, Sarah Lasoye, Zamzam

**Seconded by:** Ibrahim, Myriam Kane, Ali Milani, Krum Tashev, Amelia Horgan, Piers Wilkinson,  
Eva Crossan Jory, Beth Douglas

**Committees:** NEC

### NEC Believes:

1. On 14th May 2018, over 60 Palestinian protesters, including women and children, were murdered by the Israeli military, and over two thousand wounded by live ammunition.<sup>1</sup>
2. Amnesty International, along with many other human rights organisations, member states of the UN, and the UN Secretary General, have expressed their outrage over these atrocities.<sup>2</sup>
3. Since 30th March 2018 - Land Day - tens of thousands of Palestinians have been participating in the Great Return March, calling for the right of return to their homes and to their land they were expelled from by force 70 years ago. Over a hundred Palestinians have been killed by the Israeli military for participating in the protests.
4. Since 2014, the UK government has approved over £490 million worth of arms exports to Israel, including for weapons of the type used in the militarised repression in Gaza.
5. This year marks 70 years since the Nakba - the Catastrophe - in which over 750,000 Palestinians were expelled or forced to flee from their homes and their land.

### NEC Further Believes:

1. The UK must recognise its complicity in denying the Palestinian people their inalienable and basic rights, particularly by continuing to approve arms sales to Israel, in defiance of the UK's own export guidelines.

### NEC Resolves:

1. To stand in solidarity with the Palestinian people in their struggle for dignity, equality, and the right to return to their homes, as enshrined in international law.
2. To continue to support the Palestinian-led call for Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) of Israel, along with civil society, human rights organisation, and trade unions, until it complies with basic tenets of international law, as NUS has done for many years.
3. To ensure that any BDS activity does not target Israeli citizens, particularly Israeli students studying at UK FE and HE institutions.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.theguardian.com/world/live/2018/may/15/gaza-israel-nakba-day-protests-as-palestinians-bury-those-killed-in-embassy-unrest-live-updates>

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.thenational.scot/news/16225186.Amnesty\\_and\\_the\\_SNP\\_condemn\\_Israel\\_but\\_Boris\\_stays\\_silent/](http://www.thenational.scot/news/16225186.Amnesty_and_the_SNP_condemn_Israel_but_Boris_stays_silent/)

4. To ensure that any BDS activity does not target or impact Jewish students' ability to study on their campus, particularly regarding provision of Kosher food, provision of religious items and by ensuring a zero-tolerance approach to antisemitism/ hostile environments where Jewish students feel uncomfortable during campus BDS debates.

## **Motion 102: Support for Student Carers**

**Proposed by:** Eden Ladley

**Seconded by:** Piers Wilkinson, Beth Douglas

**Committees:** NEC

### **NEC Believes:**

1. The NUS "Learning with Care" research (2013) said that student carers had experienced varying degrees of support from their institutions, but in all cases, there was a lack of coordinated, systematic support.
2. Two thirds of student carers (67%) regularly worry about not having enough money to meet their basic living expenses.
3. That full-time students are not eligible for Carers Allowance.

### **NEC Further Believes:**

1. That student carers are under-represented in the student movement as a whole.
2. That international student carers should also be considered.
3. That NUS should be doing more for student carers.

### **NEC Resolves:**

1. To mandate the Vice President Welfare to lobby the UK Government on Carers Allowance eligibility to be extended to students.
2. To mandate NUS to consult student carers on what support from their institutions and Unions should look like, to collect data and best practice from Students' Unions on how they and their institutions support student carers currently, and share this in a guide to the membership.



## Motion 103: Justice for Grenfell

**Proposed by:** Sarah Lasoye

**Seconded by:** Myriam Kane, Hareem Ghani, Ilyas Nagdee

**Committees:** NEC

### NEC Believes:

1. 7 months on from the horrific Grenfell Tower Fire, the Government is yet to approve any requests from local councils for fire safety improvements. 36 have so far requested help, including four with aluminium cladding like that on Grenfell Tower.
2. This January, Rotterdam's University of Applied Sciences closed one of its buildings as the cladding posed a high risk of fire. It is unclear how many buildings in Britain require such urgent action.
3. On 20 September 2017, the Scottish Parliament Local Government and Communities Committee was informed by a representative of Glasgow City Council that the city had a number of buildings which used flammable cladding similar to that at Grenfell Tower. The council later confirmed 57 privately owned buildings had some element of aluminium cladding similar to that of Grenfell Tower.
4. The government have no mandatory tests of cladding on private accommodation, which includes high rise student accommodation. A number of public buildings, including schools and hospitals have flammable cladding. Of the 89 private sector buildings tested in September with cladding, 85 failed the test - only 4 passed.
5. Of 173 social housing buildings with similar cladding to Grenfell Tower, 165 buildings failed the fire safety test, and only 8 passed.
6. BBC Breakfast found that only 2% of the council and social housing tower blocks that it investigated had full sprinkler systems. These have prevented multiple deaths in high rise tower blocks around the world.
7. The Conservative government did not heed warnings of previous fatal fires in high rise buildings to fit sprinkler systems which save lives in high rise buildings. The cost of this for Grenfell Tower would have been £200,000. The local council has reserves of £274 million.

### NEC Further Believes:

1. Grenfell Tower Fire was a horrific catastrophe which has exposed how Tory cuts impact the poorest communities in the borough of Kensington and Chelsea, one of the richest boroughs in London. The residents who have been affected by this fire are overwhelmingly working-class people, migrants and refugees from African, Arab, Asian and Caribbean communities.
2. The survivors of the Grenfell Tower catastrophe include students and the government must provide full support in terms of rehousing, mental health provision, an immigration amnesty for



undocumented people who lived in the tower, and access to the charitable funds that have yet to reach survivors.

#### **NEC Resolves:**

1. To call for retrofitting of sprinklers and a flammable cladding mandatory safety test by the Government on all high-rise buildings, in both private and public sectors, to prevent another Grenfell Tower catastrophe, including a detailed audit of student accommodation.
2. To condemn the use of cheap flammable cladding which has been banned in the building industry internationally, the austerity-led cuts to the fire service, including the closure of fire stations and loss of fire fighters in London, the cuts to fire safety provisions by the Conservative government over the last 7 years, and the labelling of health and safety legislation as a 'red tape monster' by the government.

#### **Motion 104: Childcare on Campus**

**Proposed by:** Eden Ladley

**Seconded by:** Piers Wilkinson, Beth Douglas

**Committees:** NEC

#### **NEC Believes:**

1. That NUS have carried out research in the past on the experiences of student parents in 'Meet the Parents' (2009) and in NUS Scotland's 'The Bairn Necessities' (2015)

#### **NEC Further Believes:**

1. That while both of these pieces of research are thorough and important, more needs to be done to support student parents on campus and improve childcare provision specifically across the UK.

#### **NEC resolves:**

1. To mandate NUS to carry out research on what provision is currently available across the UK, in both HE and FE
2. To mandate the Vice President Welfare to work with the Student Parents and Carers section of NUS to launch a campaign around improving provision across all post compulsory learning.
3. That NUS will collect best practice from Students' Unions on work they're doing to make their campuses child-friendly, and share this with the wider movement.



## Motion 105: Fighting Prison Injustice

**Proposed by:** Jess Bradley

**Seconded by:** Eden Ladley, Rachel O'Brien

**Committees:** NEC

### NEC Believes:

1. The government intends to build several new megaprisons across England and Wales. The cost of this stands at least £1.2 billion<sup>3</sup>
2. The UK has the highest per capita prison population in Western Europe<sup>4</sup>
3. Prisons are a costly and ineffective method of resolving conflicts in the community. A prison place costs in excess of £40m per year<sup>5</sup>, with high rates of reoffending<sup>6</sup>.
4. Restorative justice is an alternative approach to the prison system which emphasises mediation, community support mechanisms, and challenging systemic oppression. It has better rates of victim satisfaction and offender accountability compared with punitive justice<sup>7</sup>
5. The UK Prison System disproportionately incarcerates working class<sup>8</sup>, black<sup>9</sup>, and disabled people<sup>10</sup>. Whilst official figures are not kept on LGBT+ and Trans demographics behind bars, anecdotal evidence points to these communities being disproportionately represented in prison too.
6. The NUS Trans Campaign has been working on a syllabus which provides workshop plans and reading material for people who want to learn more about prison abolition and restorative justice.

### NEC Further Believes:

1. Any expansion of the prison estate is likely to have the effect of increasing state violence and the incarceration of marginalised people.
2. £40k per prisoner per year, in the vast majority of cases, would be better spent on prevention and social support than on simply housing them behind bars.
3. Restorative justice is well-supported in public policy and is a more ethical and effective form of justice, but not many people know about it meaning it has little public support. It is often excluded from law, criminology, and related courses.

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<sup>3</sup> [researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/SN05646/SN05646.pdf](https://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/SN05646/SN05646.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/shared/spl/hi/uk/06/prisons/html/nn1page1.stm>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2008/jul/28/justice.prisonsandprobation>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/proven-reoffending-statistics>

<sup>7</sup> <https://restorativejustice.org.uk/resources/moj-evaluation-restorative-justice>

<sup>8</sup> <http://www.prisonreformtrust.org.uk/Portals/0/Documents/Prisonthefacts.pdf>

<sup>9</sup> [researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/SN04334/SN04334.pdf](https://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/SN04334/SN04334.pdf)

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/sites/default/files/criminal-justice-system.pdf>

### NEC Resolves:

1. For the NUS to affirm a stance supporting a moratorium on the construction of new prisons in the United Kingdom.
2. To mandate the President to write to the Ministry of Justice expressing opposition to current and future prison expansion projects.
3. To mandate the VP Soc Cit to provide support for local groups campaigning against prison justice and for restorative justice.
4. To mandate the VPUD to explore the possibilities of setting up students' unions within prisons where educational facilities are provided.
5. To mandate the President, VPHE, and VPFE to campaign for law, criminology, social work, and other related courses to include abolitionist perspectives within their course content.
6. To mandate the President and Vice Presidents to encourage constituent members to disseminate and utilise the prison abolition syllabus.

### Motion 106: If we can't travel, we can't learn....

**Proposed by:** Emily Chapman

**Seconded by:** Amatey Doku, Izzy Lenga, Darren Clarke

**Committees:** NEC

### NEC Believes:

1. Transport costs mean students are currently, and have consistently been, excluded from or impoverished by their education.
2. During the Area Review Process, NUS held roundtables with student representatives from 124 FE institutions across England. It was found that in every area transport was an issue affecting student's ability to access education.
3. NUS carried out research with FE students in 2015 and found that 51% of students said they cannot always afford their travel costs.<sup>11</sup>
4. Apprentices struggle to afford their transport costs. Across the UK apprentices are paying an average of £24 per week in travel costs.<sup>12</sup> This means that an apprentice on the apprentice national minimum wage of £3.50 lose an entire day's pay each week in paying for their commute.
5. In Wales, around six in 10 (62 per cent) further education students have costs associated with travel<sup>13</sup>. This figure rises to 75% in Northern Ireland.

<sup>11</sup> [https://nusdigital.s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/document/documents/20127/a9921e89ec43a5c30c93230062098267/CTC\\_transport\\_briefing\\_-\\_FINAL.pdf?AWSAccessKeyId=AKIAJKEA56ZWKFU6MHNQ&Expires=1515431626&Signature=NjQAdwdXZGPZVK4f93p5w3vzYLY%3D](https://nusdigital.s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/document/documents/20127/a9921e89ec43a5c30c93230062098267/CTC_transport_briefing_-_FINAL.pdf?AWSAccessKeyId=AKIAJKEA56ZWKFU6MHNQ&Expires=1515431626&Signature=NjQAdwdXZGPZVK4f93p5w3vzYLY%3D)

<sup>12</sup> [https://www.nus.org.uk/PageFiles/12238/Forget%20Me%20Not\\_%20Apprentice%20Report.pdf](https://www.nus.org.uk/PageFiles/12238/Forget%20Me%20Not_%20Apprentice%20Report.pdf)

<sup>13</sup> [https://www.nus.org.uk/PageFiles/12238/NUS\\_poundinyourpocketWales\\_report-English.pdf](https://www.nus.org.uk/PageFiles/12238/NUS_poundinyourpocketWales_report-English.pdf)

6. The cost of travel, both in cash and time, is putting strain on students' abilities to balance their commitments between work, study and family life. In Wales, 37% of students reported this<sup>14</sup>, in Northern Ireland it was 49%<sup>15</sup>
7. In Scotland, an apprentice on the apprentice minimum wage working 35 hours a week would earn £122.50 a week. While discounts are available to 16-18-year olds who hold a Young Scot card, apprentices over 18 face weekly ticket costs of up to £54.409 - almost half of their weekly wage.
8. The discount offered by the 16-25 railcard and new "millennial railcard" announced in 2017 is not valid on a large amount of peak-time travel, when students are most likely to be travelling to college.
9. Student support for travel is inconsistent across local authorities and does not cover costs.
10. The removal of Education Maintenance Allowance and the Adult Learning Grant back in 2010 for students in England has made financial support a key issue for Further Education students when it comes to accessing their education.
11. That whilst the Government replaced EMA with a bursary, the overall budget of this fund and its discretionary nature means that it is inadequate at meeting the needs of FE students.
12. FE Students in rural areas pay more for often less satisfactory services.
13. The NSoA have been working on a national campaign on the issue of transport.
14. Some apprentices are blocked from accessing their apprenticeship if they live in rural areas or areas with a lack of public transport. This creates a further barrier in terms of adverse pay conditions and discourages people from applying to apprenticeships or types of apprenticeships.<sup>16</sup>
15. All apprentices should have a reasonable amount of disposable income for development.

#### **NEC Further Believes:**

1. Students also suffer from poor, unreliable services on public transport such as buses, trains and trams.
2. One third of FE students spend between one and two hours getting to college.
3. Students in rural areas have limited services that are at risk of being cut or removed completely, limiting students' access to college and activities outside the classroom. In cities, transport options are more numerous but the cost can be so prohibitive as to leave students' transport options very limited.
4. Area reviews in England, college regionalisation in Scotland and mergers creating large regional colleges in Wales and NI are intended to create greater specialisation of subjects being taught on certain campuses.<sup>17</sup>

<sup>14</sup> [https://www.nus.org.uk/PageFiles/12238/NUS\\_poundinyourpocketWales\\_report-English.pdf](https://www.nus.org.uk/PageFiles/12238/NUS_poundinyourpocketWales_report-English.pdf)

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.nus.org.uk/Global/NUS-USI-Pound-in-Your-Pocket-summary-report.pdf>

<sup>16</sup> [https://www.nus.org.uk/PageFiles/12238/Forget%20Me%20Not\\_%20Apprentice%20Report.pdf](https://www.nus.org.uk/PageFiles/12238/Forget%20Me%20Not_%20Apprentice%20Report.pdf)

<sup>17</sup> <https://www.scotrail.co.uk/tickets/commuter>



5. Curriculum changes like this will lead to students having to travel further to access the course they want to study or choose a course or institution they may not want to study because it is nearer to their home
6. Many students' unions negotiate with local bus companies to provide a discounted rate for students, but as this happens at a local level it varies from institution to institution meaning not all students are getting a fair deal.
7. Government should guarantee free bus travel for FE students and apprentices, just as older people do, to ensure equal access to opportunity, preventing them from falling behind due to financial barriers.

#### **NEC Resolves:**

1. To invest in a community led campaign across the country, to bring together transport companies, local councils and students to fix cheaper, more affordable, more reliable travel for students.
  2. To lobby locally and nationally for discounted and accessible travel for college students and apprentices across the UK.
  3. To negotiate with national public transport provider to ensure NUS extra as the recognised discount card for travel.
  4. To lobby private national rail companies to lift the peak time restriction on young person's rail discounts.
  5. To produce guidance for local unions to contact and lobby local franchised transport providers to introduce cheaper travel for students.
  6. To create a briefing to assist and coordinate with unions lobbying for better student transport and student discounts on travel in their local area through the new laws
  7. To lobby National Rail regarding restrictions on the 16-25 railcard and publicise availability to full time students over 26
  8. For NUS to increase AOC and UUK's awareness of the issues commuting students face and the effect they have on the student experience.
  9. To lobby for a national student concession on all public transport
  10. To lobby Transport for London regarding the restrictions on Oyster payments for users of the Student Oyster Card
  11. NUS FE Zone and NSoA to work in conjunction on a national and regional campaign on apprentice travel.
  12. The NUS VPFE to be made accountable for making sure the apprentice stream is not forgotten about.
  13. For NUS VP Further Education and VP Society and Citizenship to work with the NSoA to obtain quantitative data around numbers of affected apprentices in rural and city areas.
  14. When this data is obtained, for the transport working group of NSoA to come up with proposals to better the lives of apprentices
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## **Motion 107: NUS for the NHS - DO NOT PRIVATISE OUR HEALTHCARE SYSTEM**

**Proposed by:** Piers Wilkinson

**Seconded by:** Rachel O'Brien, Eva Crossan-Jory

**Committees:** NEC

### **NEC Believes:**

1. Decent healthcare is a right, not a privilege, that must be afforded to everybody who needs it.
2. NHS spending on care provided by private companies is at a record high of £3.1 billion, with non-NHS firms winning nearly 70% of all contracts in England in 2016-17.
3. Richard Branson's Virgin Care won a record £1 billion worth of contracts in the last year, making it the dominant private provider in the NHS market. The company pays no tax in the UK, and its parent company is registered in the British Virgin Islands, which is a tax haven.
4. A landmark study published last year showed that outsourcing of hospital support services had serious health risks. By seeking to save money (by employing fewer staff, with worse working conditions), private firms lowered the cleanliness and hygiene levels, putting patients at greater risks of very serious illness, such as the MRSA bug.
5. Even senior Tory MPs are urging the government to rethink of the introduction of Accountable Care Organisations - a way for to open up the NHS to privatisation - and listen to concerns of the public.

### **NEC Further Believes:**

1. Private companies are interested in profit before patients. They maximise profits by cutting corners and underinvesting, by cutting jobs and employing more staff on precarious contracts.
2. Further, private firms are not accountable to the public: the contracts that are agreed have little transparency, and companies are not subject to Freedom of Information requests because of 'commercial confidentiality'.
3. The collapse of private companies providing public services (e.g. Carillion) is a clear indication of the insecurity and risk that privatisation brings.
4. Students are particularly vulnerable in the light of mass NHS cuts and privatisation.

### **NEC Resolves:**

1. To make campaigning against the government to stop the privatisation of the NHS a priority for the Welfare Zone in 2018/19.
2. For the Welfare Zone to work with external local and national groups, such as Save Our NHS and the People's Assembly Against Austerity in opposing NHS Cuts and Privatisation.



3. For the Welfare Zone to map local and national groups campaigning to save the NHS so that SUs and students can easily find groups to form coalitions with.
4. For the Welfare Zone to campaign against Sustainability and Transformation Plans.
5. For the Welfare Zone to conduct research into the ability of students to access NHS services, taking into account waiting times and the transitory nature of students as further barriers to access.

## **Motion 108: Campaigning for better sexual health provision on campus**

**Proposed by:** Izzy Lenga

**Seconded by:** Robbie Young, Emily Chapman, Jess Levy

**Committees:** NEC

### **NEC Believes:**

1. All students, regardless of age, should have access to free, confidential sexual health services suitable to their needs and within a practical distance to travel to.
2. All sexual health services and information should be pro-choice and we should fight for the right for students to live and study on our campuses without being lobbied by anti-choice groups.
3. Access to sexual health services is especially difficult for students aged 16-18 in FE.
4. FE students aged 16-18 are a valuable voice in developing an inclusive SRE curriculum for schools.
5. The effect of privatisation and Tory cuts have meant that multiple sexual health centres have closed over the past year. In London alone six have closed in the past year.
6. The Royal College of Nursing has criticised the new the new system for sexual health as, an "STI ticking time bomb".

### **NEC Resolves:**

1. To support and lobby local councils to adopt similar legislation to Ealing Council on combatting the harassment that people going to sexual health clinics face from prolife protestors, by creating buffer zones.
2. NUS must lobby for sexual health services to be free for students and that the cuts to services such as sexual health clinics and rape crisis centres, to be reversed.
3. NUS to work with FE institutions to ensure that 16-18-year olds are key voices in shaping SRE
4. Through the NUS purchasing consortium, STI testing kits and free contraception should be provided to Students' Unions.



## Motion 109: Tackling Sexual Harassment

<b>Proposed by:</b>	Eden Ladley, Sarah Lasoye
<b>Seconded by:</b>	Piers Wilkinson, Beth Douglas, Hareem Ghani, Aliya Yule, Amelia Horgan, Eva Crossan-Jory, Zamzam Ibrahim
<b>Committees:</b>	NEC

### NEC Believes:

1. 1 in 3 women students have experienced sexual assault or unwanted advances at University half of women students and a third of men knew of a friend or relative who has experienced intrusive sexual behaviour.
2. Only 21% of surveyed universities had a designated point of contact who had significant training on how to deal with students who have experienced sexual harassment and assault
3. More than 1/3 of women students sometimes feel unsafe visiting university or college buildings in the evening due to their concerns of harassment and intimidation.
4. The majority of student sexual harassment and assault are other students known to the victims
5. Being subject to unwanted sexual contact significantly impacts educational attainment, increases stress levels and increases risk of dropping out of university
6. Access to education is partly determined by the right to study free of intimidation, harassment and abuse.
7. Self-defining women, students and staff face endemic sexual harassment and abuse in institutions of post-16 education.
8. Enforcement behind recommendations made within UUK Task Force has not been strong enough in respect to the enormity of the issue.
9. There have been numerous incidents of sexual harassment, rape and assault at NUS events.
10. The NUS complaints procedure and disciplinary procedure need urgent reviewing.
11. The NUS need to stand in solidarity with survivors/victims of sexual violence.

### NEC Further Believes:

1. Support SUs in lobbying their institutions to create accessible reporting mechanisms that provide students with sufficient information and adequate pastoral care.
  2. A report in The Guardian unmasked systematic ways in which institutions attempt to actively cover up or ignore cases of sexual harassment and abuse, including nondisclosure agreements.
  3. 37% of women and 12% of men have experienced unwelcome and inappropriate sexual touching and groping, which constitutes sexual assault under UK law.
  4. UUK's taskforce report findings and recommendations need to be implemented in every University.
  5. That there needs to be bespoke work on this carried out in FE
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6. The scale of sexual harassment and assault experienced within institutions is completely unacceptable and must be stopped
7. The Women Students Campaign has many motions around sexual harassment and assault, it is time National Conference passed a motion to help tackle student to student sexual harassment and assault within institutions.
8. Due to the stigma and victim blaming that disclosures are met with; the recorded statistics underrepresent just how pertinent this issue is.
9. Educational environments should be safe for students to thrive, free from fear of sexual harassment or assault
10. Institutions should be tackling this epidemic head on, with centralized reporting systems and trained pastoral support for survivors/victims.
11. The standard of proof required for cases of sexual violence focus on a "balance of probability" instead of requiring allegations to be proven "beyond reasonable doubt".
12. Demanding a criminal standard of proof actively discourages survivors and victims of sexual harassment, rape and assault from engaging with disciplinary (complaint) procedures.
13. NUS are not a criminal court and should not behave as such. Indeed, penalties inflicted on the alleged perpetrator have no effect on their criminal record or their standing in the eyes of the law.

#### **NEC resolves:**

1. To call on HEFCE/OfS to require all HEIs to report on progress against the UUK guidelines
  2. Produce campaign materials, toolkits and appropriate training for student unions to run sexual violence awareness workshops and support students who face harassment and abuse.
  3. To ensure that bystander intervention training is on offer to help people feel enabled to speak up if they see harassment or hatred towards students
  4. To lobby UUK to respond to sector-wide staff-student harassment.
  5. To call on Government and AoC to launch an FE sector specific taskforce on sexual assault and harassment.
  6. To call on all FEIs and HEIs to adopt zero-tolerance stance for sexual harassment, violence, or hate crimes, all of which will become subject to a disciplinary matter
  7. To accept the recommendations by 1752 and the NUS Women's Campaign research due to be published soon
  8. To work with SUs to provide campaign resources, share best practice, national lobbying and provide training in preventing sexual harassment and assault, and bystander intervention.
  9. For NUS to deliver first respondent training to all NUS officers, staff and NEC members.
  10. For NUS to convene a working group to review safeguarding policies on sexual harassment and sexual violence and draft new policies accordingly.
  11. To ensure that the working group has reserved places for Independent Sexual Violence Agencies (ISVAs), the NUS Women's Officer and the NUS Women's NEC 2<sup>nd</sup> Place.
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12. To ensure that the standard of proof required in disciplinary cases focuses on a "balance of probability".
13. To ensure that NUS drafts new guidelines on how to support survivors/victims of sexual violence.
14. To ensure that NUS drafts guidance for students' unions on how to deal with incidents of sexual violence involving union staff (including elected officers).

## **Motion 110: Stop Doing Over Our Nursing Students**

**Proposed by:** Eden Ladley

**Seconded by:** Piers Wilkinson, Beth Douglas

**Committees:** NEC

### **NEC Believes:**

1. Following the scrapping of Bursaries, English applications to British Nursing and Midwifery courses fell 23%.
2. Placements reduce access to union and university support.
3. Failure and dropout rates are high. Students report inadequate academic and wellbeing support.
4. The last NUS Charter for Nursing and Midwifery students was published 22 years ago.
5. Neither the relevant QAA nor NMC's education standards mention student support, representation or social activity.
6. Nursing and Midwifery Students contribute to NHS services without employment rights or financial compensation.
7. The NUS must act to support student Nurses and Midwives.
8. There are huge problems with academic failure and lack of support for nursing students, across all institutions
9. Many nurses and midwives are on placement for half the year and as a result, they are very unlikely to be involved with their Unions, societies and sports clubs
10. Nursing placements are often some distance from the institution therefore increasing isolation and reducing the amount of contact time for face-to-face support with their institution to a minimum
11. Students on nursing courses are often mature, with dependants and many institutions fail support those with these and other additional needs
12. Nursing failure and dropout rates are at epidemic levels, institutions average a 20% drop out rate but some report up to 50%
13. Whilst on placement there is the added pressure to meet the demands submitting and preparing for assessments leads to academic failure, misconduct and stress
14. Nursing students can be course terminated through the means of 'fitness to practice'
15. The last NUS Charter for Nursing and Midwifery students was published 22 years ago



16. There are huge problems with academic failure and lack of support for nursing students, across all institutions
17. NSS scores consistently track lower for Nursing and Midwifery courses against the average
18. Many nurses and midwives are on placement for half the year and as a result they are very unlikely to be involved with their Unions, societies and sports clubs or wider University community
19. Nursing placements are often some distance from the institution therefore increasing isolation and reducing the amount of contact time for face to face support with their institution to a minimum
20. Students on nursing courses are often mature, with dependents and many institutions fail support those with these and other additional needs
21. Nursing failure and dropout rates are at epidemic levels

#### **NEC Further Believes:**

1. The NMC's standards for Nursing and Midwifery education (like the QAA for these courses) fail to mention student support, student representation or social activity
2. To address Nursing and Midwifery students specifically in future reviews of NUS governance.
3. To improve campus integration, including in student unions' sports clubs, societies and other services.
4. Nursing bursaries have been scrapped
5. Year after year NUS passes motions on Nursing and Midwifery that never seem to go anywhere
6. The last NUS Charter for Nursing and Midwifery students was published 22 years ago
7. The NMC's standards for Nursing and Midwifery education (like the QAA for these courses) fail to mention student support, student representation or social activity

#### **NEC Resolves:**

1. To work with all relevant trade unions to campaign for increased financial support for these students, including an upfront allowance for placement expenses.
  2. Lobby Universities to adapt placement allocation to the needs of student carers, family cohesion and professional development.
  3. Lobby for future versions of the NMC code to uphold freedom of expression and the right to personal life; removing restrictions on media co-operation and relaxing professional behaviour regulations, allowing student nurses to express themselves freely online (excluding hate speech/misconduct).
  4. Create a national charter of rights for Student Nurses and Midwives
  5. To hold a national summit on representation of Nursing and Midwifery students in conjunction with Unison, the RCN and the RCM
  6. To lobby the NMC and other bodies to improve the standard of student representation, student social facilities and student wellbeing delivered by HEIs as a key part of nursing education standards
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7. Campaign for all UK Nursing and Midwifery curriculums to explore the health needs of minority groups.
8. Lobby Universities to improve their absence and 'fitness to practice' policies so that disabled students in these fields do not suffer discrimination.
9. Respond to proposals for NHS staff to enforce 'health-tourism' regulations.
10. Protect placements and future jobs for current nursing students
11. To carry out research into the student experience of students on Nursing and Midwifery courses
12. To research the viability of the remuneration of student nurses for the hours undertaken on placement, which constitutes approximately 50% of the contact hours during their degree.
13. To campaign to expose the failure of student funding policy for nursing and reverse the changes
14. To look at integration of nursing across many Unions and their campuses to increase nursing representation
15. That any review of NUS' governance should address nursing and midwifery students as a specific priority area
16. To campaign to expose the failure of student funding policy for nursing and reverse the changes
17. To look at integration of nursing across many Unions and their campuses to increase nursing representation
18. To work with trade unions to protect placements and future jobs for current nursing students
19. To hold a national summit on representation of Nursing and Midwifery students in conjunction with Unison, the RCN and the RCM 128
20. To lobby the NMC and other bodies to improve the standard of student representation, student social facilities and student wellbeing delivered by HEIs as a key part of nursing education standards
21. To carry out research into the student experience of students on Nursing and Midwifery courses  
To create a new national charter of rights for Student Nursing and Midwifery education.





## Motion 111: Online Hate Crime

**Proposed by:** Izzy Lenga

**Seconded by:** Robbie Young, Jess Levy, Emily Chapman

**Committees:** NEC

### NEC Believes:

1. There has been surge in reports of hate crime both in the real world and online following the EU referendum in June 2016, while police figures show another spike around the terrorist attacks in the UK in 2017<sup>18</sup>.
2. Online hate-crime accounts for 2% of all recorded hate crime in the UK, however rates of reported online hate crime are estimated to be substantially lower than actual occurrences
3. Hate crime via social media is just as serious, and has consequences just as damaging, as hate crime perpetrated in real life
4. All students deserve to have access to education, free from harassment, intimidation or violence; regardless of background.
5. Online hate speech threatens to disrupt good campus relations and can create an environment, both publicly and virtually, in which hate crime flourishes.
6. In October 2017, the Government released a National Hate Crime Reporting Hub to channel all reports of online hate crime and reduce burden on frontline officers<sup>19</sup>. and was given £200,000 worth of funding. This amount averages out to £3 per incident recorded, and has been widely condemned as insufficient<sup>20</sup>

### NEC Further Believes:

1. Fighting hate crime is rightly at the centre of NUS' political actions and it is time to extend that fight online.
2. The rise in online hate crime, including racism, islamophobia, antisemitism, homophobia, transphobia and misogyny must be fought at all costs.
3. Freedom to express views can sometimes be tempered by the need to secure freedom from harm for students and communities, which is why NUS proudly operates a No Platform for fascists policy

### NEC Resolves:

1. To publicly reaffirm NUS' zero tolerance approach to Islamophobia, antisemitism and all forms of racism and discrimination in real life and online

<sup>18</sup> <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/online-hate-crime-amber-rudd-home-office-national-police-hub-facebook-twitter-trolls-a7988411.html>

<sup>19</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/home-secretary-announces-new-national-online-hate-crime-hub>

<sup>20</sup> <https://www.theguardian.com/society/2017/oct/14/government-criticised-for-low-funding-level-to-tackle-online-hate>

2. To extend the principles of the NUS No Platform policy into online spaces and issue guidance to SUs on how to practically implement the policy online
3. NUS will lobby the Office for Students and others to provide clearer guidance to universities on balancing the freedom to speak with freedom from harm.
4. To support SUs to 'win the argument' with their institutions and to work collaboratively to protect both freedom of speech and online student safety
5. NUS will provide support for students' unions to create appropriate policies to address online hate crime
6. NUS will share anonymous data, only with the informed consent of victims, with the relevant SU where they have received reports of hate crime through NUS' hate crime reporting centre.
7. NUS will compile and distribute a set of resources for SUs, alongside the guidance on how to set up a hate crime reporting centre in an SU
8. NUS to use Hate Crime Awareness Week to call for greater funding for the National Hate Crime Reporting Hub from the Home Secretary and support SUs to engage with their Police and Crime Commissioners
9. NUS will work with the relevant third sector organisations tackling online hate crime and harassment, such as Community Security Trust and others.

## **Motion 112: No Hate Here**

**Proposed by:** Izzy Lenga

**Seconded by:** Robbie Young, Emily Chapman, Jess Levy, Jess Bradley

**Committees:** NEC

### **NEC Believes:**

1. Swastikas, the symbol used by the Nazi regime have been trivialized and used around campuses as a way to threaten groups of students, or even as a joke
2. The Community Security Trust have recorded 13 separate incidents at different Universities of Swastika graffiti in 2017.
3. Swastikas belittle the experiences of those who have emotional connections to the Holocaust and Nazi persecution.
4. NUS have done increasingly well in educating the British student community on the atrocities of the Holocaust
5. In November 2017, a student hung the red Nazi flag/banner in the atrium of Central Saint Martins, UAL<sup>21</sup>

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<sup>21</sup> <https://www.thejc.com/news/uk-news/central-saint-martins-university-of-the-arts-london-1.448097>

**NEC Further Believes:**

1. Students in 2017 must be aware of the gravity of using such symbolism, especially if done casually
2. Jewish students deserve to feel safe in their homes and at their place of study
3. Swastikas are no longer a tool of the far right, and can now be found to be used all over the political spectrum

**NEC Resolves:**

1. NUS must continue work with the Union of Jewish Students following Our Living Memory to ensure that education on Swastikas and the Holocaust continues
2. NUS must encourage its member Unions to take a no tolerance policy on Swastikas
3. NUS must ensure that campus security know what to do when faced with such a situation.

