



No Platform Policy

This Union notes;

The NUS' "No platform policy"

The Race Relations Act, 1976

The Public Order Act, 1986 (race relations sections)

The Race Relations (Amendment) Act, 2000

This Union believes;

Racism is one of the biggest threats to civil liberties and human rights.

Equality is threatened by racism and the politics of the far right, which the student movement has always fought.

Students play a pivotal role in leading the debate on issues of fascism and extremism, with the ability to influence decision-makers and raise awareness of the issues to wider society.

Fascism, racism, xenophobia and religious extremism are still prevalent in British society and in higher and further education.

The Freedom party in Austria, the far right in the Netherlands and the recent success of Jean Marie Le Pen in France, coupled with the successes of the British National Party in recent council elections, present the biggest far right threat since Hitler's Nazi party, and is a clear sign that racism and fascism are still prevalent in Europe.

Groups such as the BNP, including the British Students' Association, Combat 18, the National Front, the White wolves, the Ku Klux Klan, Al-Muhajiroun, and Hizb ut-Tahrir have incited racial hatred in the past and are a threat to students on this campus.

The Holocaust is a prime example in recent history of the genocide and oppression that can result from racist and fascist ideologies.

Racists and fascists should not be given the opportunity to spread their message of intolerance and hatred in the union or under the auspices of the union and its societies.

This Union further believes;

It is a known fact that groups such as Al-Muhajiroun, Hizb ut-Tahrir and the British National Party are active in Buckinghamshire

The fact that many minority students have been victims of racist abuse in High Wycombe proves that racism is present amongst the surrounding population.

The BNP intends to stand a candidate in the May council elections

It is the responsibility of the student movement to protect students from potential threats and incitement, including incitement to racial hatred.

The "No platform policy" upheld and promoted by the NUS is an essential policy that should be supported and replicated by all student unions.

The student movement should support the National Holocaust Memorial Day, during which the entire country remembers the 12 million people that died between 1938 and 1945 as a part of the Nazi party's "Final solution"

This Union resolves

To condemn racism and fascism in every form.

To lobby the University authorities to ensure that no speakers who may incite racial hatred or discrimination are given a platform to speak.

To work with umbrella groups, Searchlight, the NUS Anti-Racism campaign and the NUS Black Students campaign to raise awareness of racism and fascism

To refuse a platform to groups and their members, that incite racial hatred, those which may divide this campus on racial lines and those which are a threat to students on this campus

To support the "Racism Tears Britain Apart" campaign of the NUS Anti-Racism campaign

To promote dialogue between minority students, so that shared ideals and goals can be found

Union mandates

The executive to inform all members of the Union and all societies of this policy and its implications for the executive and other representative bodies.

Develop an Anti-racism campaign

Campaign against potential Racist candidates in the May elections

Passed 24th March 2003

Lapses 24th March 2008