

No Platform Policy

EUSA Notes:

1. That a number of societies and institutions within Edinburgh University organise speaker events and debates in Edinburgh, and that these events are usually open to members of the University, or promoted by societies related to the University;
2. That there are groups and individuals that incite hatred on the previously stated grounds, and that such groups and individuals may use speaker events and debates in order to do so;
3. The recent election of two members of the fascist BNP to the European Parliament;
4. That the BNP, the National Front, Combat 18, the Storm Front, Al- Muhajiroun and Hizb'ut-Tahrir have been known to incite racial hatred in violation of the 1986 Race Relations Act and the 2000 Race Relations (Amendment) Act.3.

EUSA Believes:

1. That all students have the right to study in a safe environment in which their security is not threatened on the grounds of their race, nationality, creed, disability, gender, age, HIV status or sexual orientation;
2. That EUSA has a responsibility to protect the welfare and security of all of its members;
3. That freedom of speech is an important right and should be respected;
4. That there is a difference between supporting freedom of speech and promoting or inviting speakers who are very likely to incite hatred on the specified grounds;
5. That therefore, freedom of speech can be respected and maintained whilst actively not giving a high-profile platform to an individual or group who is very likely to incite hatred and has been known to have incited hatred on the specified grounds;
6. That race-, gender-, sexuality- or religion-related hate crimes increase when speakers with racist, homophobic or fascist views are actively given a high-profile platform and this presents a very real risk to the welfare of members of EUSA;
7. Those organisations who provide a platform to these speakers could be seen to be endorsing their views.
8. That a No Platform Policy is in keeping with EUSA Constitution, and as such a No Platform Policy reflects opposition to discriminatory views.

EUSA Resolves:

1. Any individuals or members of organisations or groups identified by the Students' Representative Council as holding racist or fascist views shall not be allowed to go to, speak or take part in EUSA meetings or any other EUSA events, and Officers, Committee Members and Trustees shall not share a public platform with an individual or member of an organisation or group known to hold racist or fascist views.
2. In addition, as part of the no platform policy:
 - a. a person or organisation or group may be subject to EUSA's "no platform" policy from time to time because of a decision of the Students' Representative Council;
 - b. a list of the individuals, organisations and groups subject to EUSA's "no platform" policy shall be kept on record by the Students' Representative Council;
3. That no organisation listed in the No Platform Policy be permitted to be a society, have a stall at the Societies Fair, or use EUSA facilities for events, so as to ensure a safe space for all students regardless of race, nationality, creed, disability, gender, age, sexual orientation or HIV status;
4. That in the event that an individual or member or representative of any group specified in this policy speaks in Edinburgh the EUSA Executive be mandated to co-ordinate with the police and the University so as to ensure that no EUSA member is

discriminated against on the grounds of race, nationality, creed, disability, gender, age, sexual orientation or HIV status.

5. That the EUSA Executive be mandated to state publicly EUSA's opposition to any views – implied or expressed – in the Edinburgh University print media by an individual or organisation that is subject to the No Platform Policy.

Proposer: Gabrielle Jones (0833277)
Secunder: Kristofer Keane (0789083)