



Reaffirming our commitment to a Conflict-Free Campus

What will we do?

1. To affiliate and publicise affiliation to the Conflict-Free Campus Initiative, a project of the Enough Project's raise Hope for Congo campaign.
2. To support and facilitate the organisation of awareness events on the issue where possible or relevant.
3. To educate students on the issue of Conflict Minerals, on University and Students' Association policy of procurement on this issue.
4. To encourage students at the University of Edinburgh to get involved the Conflict-free Campus Initiative and promote ethical consumerism amongst the student body.
5. To continue to uphold the Students' Association Conflict Minerals policy (passed at student council 3/12/15) and lobby to ensure the University to does the same.

What is the background to this?

1. The Students' Association policy passed on the 3rd December 2015 mandated the Association to "raise awareness" and "encourage engagement" on the issue as well as alter its procurement policy to avoid Conflict Minerals.
2. The University of Edinburgh's Central Management passed a policy on 1st March 2016 which "seeks to help to protect vulnerable communities by avoiding the use of minerals that fund conflict." This made our University the first to implement a policy of this type, in the UK.
3. That the mining of tin, tantalum, gold, and tungsten is financing conflict in certain areas, particularly the Democratic Republic of the Congo, due to local military groups controlling mining operations.
4. These minerals are collectively termed 'Conflict Minerals' by organisations working to end the human rights abuses and violence encouraged through the supply chain of minerals mined in these areas.
5. In March of 2017 the EU voted to adopt the final draft of regulations pertaining to the sourcing of Conflict Minerals. The rules are scheduled to take effect in January of 2021 and will affect UK industries regardless of Brexit due the large amount of trading the UK does with the EU.
6. The International Peace Information Service found that in 2014 nearly 70% of mines extracting Conflict Minerals in the Congo were not controlled by armed groups. This is in comparison to 2010, when an estimated nearly 90% of the mines were under the direct influence of armed groups.

What beliefs motivate the actions you propose?

1. The International Peace Information Service, UN, and the Enough Project have noted the positive impact Universities such as ours, amongst other big buyers of electronics, have made.



Representation & Democracy

2. The support for transparent supply chains from tech giants Apple and Intel, after much campaigning, shows progress is being made through policies such as this.
3. The testimony of Annie Callaway, Advocacy Manager of Enough Project, for this affiliation shows the organisation (Conflict-Free Campus Initiative) wants to be affiliated with us and for us to continue to implement our policy.
4. The knowledge that the Students' Association and the University have already made a lasting impact, but that this affiliation must be cemented in policy to ensure students remain aware and educated on the issue, and that our Students' Association may set a positive global example.

Submitted with 20 Student Signatures