Solidarity with Iranian students and workers (NUS UK)

Note to Student Council: Edinburgh University Students’ Association is a registered charity and as such legally required to spend resources on its beneficiaries, this is often referred to as ‘students as students’. This means that although we can discuss matters and adopt political stances not relating directly to our members, we are restricted in the resources we can use on such matters. Organisationally, the National Union of Students is structured in such a way that allows them to campaign on these issues, which means we can submit motions we otherwise could not act upon.

NUS UK Conference resolves:
1. To make links with and build solidarity with the Iranian student and labour movement and left activists fighting for these goals.
2. To mandate NUS officers and other representatives of the NUS not to appear on Press TV, which is the English-language propaganda-outlet of the regime.

NUS UK Conference notes:
1. The movement of protest in Iran which began in late December 2017, demanding basic freedoms, the release of political prisoners, lower prices and workers’ rights.
2. The violent repression that these protests suffered.

NUS UK Conference believes:
1. Student activists have raised slogans against all factions of the regime, for democracy, and for student-worker unity. We support their demands.
2. We also demand the immediate release of arrested student, labour movement and other political activists.
3. We stand in solidarity with those in Iran fighting for better living standards, for the right of workers and others to organise, for the release of political prisoners, for women’s rights, for a democratic republic and free elections. We oppose Western military threats and economic sanctions.

Submitted with 20 Student Signatures in January 2018.