

UJS Conference 2018

Motions

Results

Campus

Motion Title: CA1 IHRA definition of antisemitism

Proposer's name: Emma Jacobs

Proposer's J-Soc: Leeds

Seconder's name: Lauren Keiles

Seconder's J-Soc: Leeds



**Overwhelmingly,
1 against
5 abstain**

What's the idea?

The International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance working definition of antisemitism is used by the overwhelming majority of the Jewish community to define contemporary antisemitism. The adoption of this definition by UJS was also adopted overwhelmingly at UJS Conference in 2016.

Over the past year, Jewish people's self-definition of antisemitism has seen unprecedented attacks. Both inside and outside of student spaces, non-Jewish students have sought to block the IHRA definition. UJS must be clear and active in our response that anything other than the definition of antisemitism that we choose for ourselves is inadequate.

How do you want it to happen?

- 1) UJS to reaffirm adoption of the IHRA definition.
- 2) UJS to actively campaign for Students Unions and Universities to adopt the IHRA definition, in collaboration with individual J-Socs.
- 3) Where appropriate, UJS should lobby other local, national or international bodies to adopt the IHRA definition.
- 4) Ensure that the IHRA definition of antisemitism is not used to shut down legitimate criticism of the Israeli government.
- 5) Adopt the position that the IHRA definition is not complete without all its examples.

Motion Title: CA2 UJS should campaign for a Graduate Tax

Proposer's name: Bradley Langer

Proposer's J-Soc: Coventry University

Seconder's name: Zak Wagman

Seconder's J-Soc: University of Warwick

**Not prioritised for
discussion by those
present.**

What's the idea?

1. UJS is currently mandated to campaign for free education.
2. Free Education would mean the entire society would be forced to pay for the few to have university education. This would mean a person who has not been to university paying so others can attend. Even though graduates have a higher average income than non -graduates.
3. Free education would allow less students the opportunity to continue their study to higher education.
4. Free education would cost billions of pounds which could be better spent to support important public services such as the NHS.
5. A graduate tax allows for the best of both worlds. A graduate tax would mean any student can study without the worries of debt.
6. Graduates would start paying the costs of their university tuition when they start earning. This would mean only those gaining from university education would pay for it.

How do you want it to happen?

- 1) UJS should no longer support the free higher education model
- 2) UJS should actively campaign for a graduate tax system to replace the current tuition fee system
- 3) UJS should educate students on the benefits of a graduate tax over free education
- 4) UJS should release a statement announcing support for this policy.

Motion Title: CA3 Free Education

Proposer's name: Eden Ladley

Proposer's J-Soc: NUS LGBT+

Seconder's name: Sam Alston

Seconder's J-Soc: SOAS



What's the idea?

1. That education is a public good and access to education is a fundamental human right,

enshrined in Protocol 1, Article 2 of the Human Rights Act (1998) which states that:

“No person shall be denied a right to an education.”

2. The Talmud expresses support for free, fair and accessible education on the principle that

taxation of the richest in the community is what should fund Jewish learning also a key

element of Jewish values and beliefs tzedakah advocates such a system.

3. The government is increasingly marketising higher education through further raises to tuition fees, increasing the political weight given to flawed surveys such as the NSS and using the language of “consumers” to talk about students.

How do you want it to happen?

- 1) UJS should make the case for free education and demand that free, accessible, quality education, and decent wages, public services and benefits, are funded by:
 - a. Ending tax evasion and avoidance and cracking down on tax havens,
 - b. Imposing serious taxes on the incomes, inheritance and capital gains of the rich.
 - c. Taking the banks, and their wealth, under democratic control.
- 2) UJS shall use its position on the Board of Deputies to lobby for support from the Jewish community for free education. This could include but should not be restricted to submitting policy to the board for support of free education.
- 3) UJS shall conduct research and produce work on how the principle of how tzedakah and campaigning for free, fair and accessible education is key to Jewish values and the Jewish



community at large. UJS should post at least 2 social media posts or website blogs this year about free education.

- 4) UJS should campaign in favour of free education motions submitted on a national scale at NUS conferences.
- 5) UJS should oppose all efforts to further marketise higher education, including but not limited to fee increases.

Motion Title: CA4 Combating antisemitism in NUS

Proposer's name: Gabe Milne

Proposer's J-Soc: Sheffield

Seconder's name: Maya Sterrie

Seconder's J-Soc: Leeds



Unanimously

What's the idea?

- There is a history of antisemitism within NUS with Jewish members of NEC receiving abuse for years due to their Jewish identity. Famously Luciana Berger, now an MP, was forced resign over this.
- The Home Affairs Select Committee report on Antisemitism in the UK, published in 2016, said the then NUS President's language "smacked of outright racism" after calling Birmingham University "a Zionist outpost".
- NUS have, to their credit, adopted the IHRA definition of antisemitism.
- Antisemitism is still a problem in the student movement today, with an NUS NEC member resigning in September 2018 after comparing Israeli policies to those of the Nazis.
- NUS has a firm stance as an anti-racist movement, and also claims to have a 'zero-tolerance' to antisemitism, but the organisation has often failed to put their words into action.
- NUS' Code of Conduct is not fit for purpose for a 'zero-tolerance' stance on antisemitism, as it only covers full time staff or volunteers at NUS events. Therefore, if a non-paid elected representative of NUS posts an antisemitic statement online, which violates NUS' own definition of antisemitism, this is permitted under NUS code of conduct.
- For the NUS Code of Conduct to be fit for purpose, it is imperative NUS update their code of conduct to include the actions of NUS volunteers outside of NUS events.
- It is likely that if UJS had not in the past put significant pressure on NUS, antisemitism would not have been dealt with in a satisfactory manner. Such pressure includes advocating for the adoption of the IHRA definition at NUS conference in 2017. Before this, NUS had used the EUMC working definition since 2000.

How do you want it to happen?

1. Mandate UJS to fight antisemitism within NUS and the wider student movement.



2. Mandate UJS to put pressure on NUS to update their Code of Conduct to include the actions of NUS volunteers outside of NUS events.
3. For UJS to continue to work with those in the student movement who stand with Jewish students against antisemitism.
4. For UJS to make a particular effort to reach out to groups who represent students facing other forms of racism, such as FOSIS, and work towards having a better and more constructive relationship with these groups.

Motion Title: CA5 Strengthening UJS' commitment to fighting hate speech on campus

Proposer's name: James Harris

Proposer's J-Soc: Birmingham

Seconder's name: Benjamin Freeman

Seconder's J-Soc: Manchester



Unanimously

What's the idea?

On campus it is understood that there are many groups that can cause students to feel uneasy or uncomfortable. There are some groups though which directly threaten to physically harm innocent students and UJS should always ensure it works with the relevant organisations to ensure they are allowed no presence in campus life.

The NUS has set clear guidelines on what organisations should be no platformed and this allows for stronger mobilization against these abhorrent groups.

UJS should stand side by side with NUS in strongly enforcing this policy to ensure the continued physical wellbeing of students simply trying to attain an education.

Last year at conference a policy was passed which was far too broad in defining hate, stating that UJS should not be associated with organisations who "hold extremist beliefs, a far-right ideology, homophobic attitude are racist or discriminatory based on religious grounds". Loose language will not help us tackle the roots of hatred and could potentially lead to divisive partisanship if Labour were to be deemed 'racist' or the Conservatives were labelled 'far-right'.

How do you want it to happen?

To ensure there are clear guidelines on what UJS defines as hateful or extremist organisations, UJS should repeal the overly broad item 1 of motion CA6 (2017) and use NUS's no platforming policy to dictate the organisations it defines as hateful. The policy includes the following organisations:

Al-Muhajiroun;

British National Party;

English Defence League;

Hizb-ut-Tahrir;

Muslim Public Affairs Committee.

National Action

UJS should work closely with NUS and continue to lead by example by not associating itself with these any of these extremist, hateful organisations.

UJS will renew its commitment to combating hate and continue its work in tandem with other organisations to ensure the future success of this policy

Motion title: CA6 Simplifying UJS Reimbursement Policy

Proposer's name: Joshua Samuel

**Passed to National
Council.**

Proposer's J-Soc: Leicester

Seconder's name: Joshua Davies

Seconder's J-Soc: Leicester

Whats the idea?

Currently UJS is unable and unwilling to directly reimburse external organisations which fund specific events on campus which support Jewish life and Israel engagement.

This is inherently problematic as not every J-Soc has its own bank account. This means that monies must travel through personal bank accounts and already financially stretched students have to pay out large sums before agonisingly waiting reimbursement.

UJS has consistently taken too long to reimburse both individuals and J-Soc's especially considering their financial situation. This desperately need to be improved as a matter of urgency.

With money travelling through personal accounts it is only a matter of time before a serious complaint of potential embezzlement takes place which would undermine both the integrity of the individual and all parties involved. UJS should move to act now instead of waiting for a serious issue to take place

How do you want it to happen?

UJS and its partners will commit to reimbursing external organisations directly supplying that the appropriate J-Soc representative has given explicit permission for this to take place.

UJS must take supportive measures more accessible for those who require extra support in offsetting expenses such as seeking measures to speed up the reimbursement process.

UJS will commit to helping every J-Soc around the country setting up accounts where money can be held (understanding certain SU's have policies about external funding and accounts) to ensure no single individual should be forced to spend personal money.



UJS will support treasurers with personalized training in accordance to the size of their J-Soc. This will happen at the start of their term of office and could be via a webinar, a group training or a meeting/ phone call with the finance department of UJS.

UJS and J-Socs

Motion Title: UJ1 Nakba Education

Proposer's name: Joanna Phillips

Proposer's J-Soc: Bath

Secunder's name: Joseph Finlay

Secunder's J-Soc: Southampton



What's the idea?

1. This year marked the 70th anniversary since the Nakba. Many Jewish students do not know what it is, despite having a great deal of knowledge about the history of the State of Israel. No resolution or coexistence can come as long as Jews benefit from Israel's existence while living in ignorance of how it came about.
2. All students, Zionist or not, benefit from a greater understanding of the situation in which the modern State of Israel was born.
3. The Nakba this year will fall on 15 May 2019, a week after Yom Haatzmaut. Nakba day marks when 700,000 Palestinians fled or were expelled from their land, and hundreds of Palestinian towns were destroyed or depopulated

How do you want it to happen?

1. UJS should mark the Nakba by organising educational events, inviting Palestinian speakers (for example refugees) to UJS and J-Soc events to teach about the history of the Nakba.
2. UJS should make a social media post on Nakba Day 2019 about the Nakba, for example featuring a blog post written by a Palestinian.
3. On UJS trips to the State of Israel participants should be informed about the pre-Nakba name of the cities and villages visited, using the Nakba Map provided by Zochrot.

Motion Title: UJ2 Free Speech on Campus

Proposer's name: Joanna Phillips

Proposer's J-Soc: Bath

Seconder's name: Ben Southern-Thomas

Seconder's J-Soc: Sheffield

**Not prioritised for
discussion by those
present.**

What's the idea?

1. BDS- Boycotts, Divestment and Sanctions- is a non-violent call for action supported by Palestinian civil society. The three demands of the BDS movement are: An end of the Israeli occupation of the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan Heights and dismantle the wall that separates Israel proper and the West Bank, Recognizing the fundamental rights of the Arab-Palestinian citizens of Israel to full equality, Respecting, protecting and promoting the rights of Palestinian refugees to return to their homes and properties.
2. The right of return for Palestinian refugees is a complicated and emotional issue. A physical resettlement of Palestinians to their original properties is literally impossible, and for the majority of BDS supporters not desirable. However, the human right of Palestinians to return to homes which many still have the keys to should be recognised. The BDS movement does not take a position on how the right of return should be enacted.
3. Support for the BDS movement does not necessitate a belief that Jews should be removed from their homes in Israel.
4. Israel Apartheid Week is a yearly event that aims to 'raise awareness of Israel's apartheid system over the Palestinian people and to build support for BDS'.
5. People living in the West Bank are subject to two different legal systems according to their ethnic background. This situation could reasonably be called apartheid. There are also reasonable criticisms of referring to the State of Israel as an apartheid state. This discussion should not be shut down on grounds of antisemitism.
6. Many events that promote the BDS movement have been cancelled on the grounds they are antisemitic, including at UCLAN and UCL.
7. The Board of Deputies have lobbied University Vice Chancellors to cancel events that support BDS and promote 'Israel Apartheid Week'.
8. Some Jews view the BDS movement as antisemitic. Some Palestinians see the cancellation of events promoting BDS as racist and Islamophobic.
9. Sometimes those who support BDS are antisemites, or use antisemitic tropes when advocating for Palestinian rights. However, the BDS movement is not

inherently antisemitic.

10. With the exception of groups or individuals who have been no platformed, free speech on campus should be protected.

How do you want it to happen?

1. UJS should adopt the position that BDS is a non-violent tactic which is not inherently antisemitic.

This does not mean UJS cannot take positions critiquing BDS on other grounds.

2. UJS should continue to call out examples where pro-Palestinian activism does cross a line into antisemitism.
3. UJS should not support any lobbying of universities to cancel Israel Apartheid Weeks, and should make their opposition to this activity known to the Board of Deputies. Any training UJS provides about antisemitism should recognise people's rights to support the BDS movement.

Motion Title: UJ3 J-Socs to collect and donate sanitary products

Proposer's name: Sara Felberg

Proposer's J-Soc: Leeds

Seconder's name: Emma Jacobs

Seconder's J-Soc: Leeds



What's the idea?

- Period poverty stops women getting an education.
- It affects women here in the U.K. & N. Ireland.
- The idea is to have sanitary product collection points in all student centres that UJS owns.

How do you want it to happen?

1. UJS owned and Hillel House, or other Jewish centres of Student life will be offered permanent sanitary product collection points.
2. Each collection point will have a designated 'officer': the social action officer on J-Soc where appropriate or another committee member if not.
3. They will be in contact with charity Bloody Good Period who will support the people running the collection points.
4. All sanitary products will be donated to Bloody Good Period with information by the donation point for those who may be affected by period poverty.

Motion Title: UJ4 UJS for all

Proposer's name: Joshua Samuel

Proposer's J-Soc: Leicester

Seconder's name: Joshua Daviea

Seconder's J-Soc: Leicester

**Not prioritised for
discussion by those
present.**

What's the idea?

UJS is a fantastic organisation for students run by students but not everyone knows what UJS represents. Unfortunately the people who know UJS the most are committee members, thus the majority of people who are just members of J-Socs do not get an opportunity to see what UJS is.

By proposing more UJS events which are open to all J-Soc members, only then can we truly be a Union of Jewish Students from all over the UK coming together instead of staying secular to our universities.

How do you want it to happen?

Events such as Shabbatons, excursions, formals, awards dinner will allow members to get a true experience of a Union of Jewish Students from all over the UK. This will further develop the UJS and showing the benefits of it not only to committees but to all Jewish students.

Motion Title: UJ5 Peer-led liberation groups

Proposer's name: Emma Jacobs

Proposer's J-Soc: Leeds

Seconder's name: Sally Patterson

Seconder's J-Soc: Bristol



Unanimously

What's the idea?

UJS' liberation networks go only some way to empower the voices of marginalised peoples and champion the fight for equality. It is inappropriate for those who do not define in to liberation groups to be leading campaigns and activities, and therefore it is imperative that these networks are peer-led, in line with UJS' core values. The UJS Staff should work to facilitate the realisation of these projects

How do you want it to happen?

1. Move the liberation networks to a peer-led structure
2. Ensure that the strategy and direction of UJS Liberation Conference is in consultation with students who define in the relevant liberation group
3. UJS should provide these peer-led liberation groups with a healthy budget to run events on a national and local scale.
4. UJS should include Jews of Colour in its liberation work, and create a group for them under the liberation umbrella. Jews of Colour should be defined as Jews who are non-white or of a non-European background. Jews who define as non-white purely on the basis of being Jewish should not be included in this liberation group.
5. UJS should include Jews who define as having grown up poor or working-class in its liberation work, and create a group for them under the liberation umbrella.

Motion Title: UJ6 Two State Solution Policy

Proposer's name: Natalie Deller

Proposer's J-Soc: Leeds

Seconder's name: Esther Offenberg

Seconder's J-Soc: Birmingham



**Overwhelmingly,
all but 2 voted in favour**

What's the idea?

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is still on-going over 70 years after the establishment of the State of Israel and is showing no signs of ending.

- It is of utmost importance that peace is achieved between Israel and its neighbours, including the Palestinians.
- The Jewish People have an inalienable right to national self-determination in their historic homeland, which has been exercised in the thriving existence of the State of Israel.
- Palestinian People have an inalienable right to national self-determination.
- The State of Israel must be both Jewish and democratic.
- The only possibility for the State of Israel to remain both a democracy and to uphold its Jewish character, and to finally achieve a lasting and stable peace - for which we all collectively yearn for - is a two State solution in which a sovereign Palestinian state exists alongside the State of Israel.
- This solution, however, is only achievable through a process of negotiation and reconciliation, not through unilateral steps.
- A majority of Jewish Students, as well as a majority of Jews around the world, support the two State Solution as the only resolve to the Israeli-Arab conflict.

How do you want it to happen?

1. UJS to continue to advocate for a two state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.
2. UJS to continue to work on the ground with groups in Israel and the Palestinian Territories which support the two-state solution on trips.
3. UJS to reaffirm its opposition to BDS.
4. UJS continue to work with organisations in the UK advocating for a two state solution. E.g bringing them to J-Socs.

Motion Title: UJ7 Representation of Sephardi/Mizrahi Jewish Traditions at UJS

Proposer's name: Natalia Shomerus and Marta Musolino

Proposer's J-Soc: Cambridge and Warwick

Seconder's name: Lauren Keiles and Raquel Cohanim

Seconder's J-Soc: Leeds and Aberdeen



Unanimously

What's the idea?

Sepharadi Jews are the oldest Jewish community in the UK and Bevis Marks is the oldest synagogue in continuous use in the UK

The need for better representation of Sepharadi/Mizrahi culture already led to a focus group in 2017

At important events such as the UJS Summit 2018 there was no Sepharadi/Mizrahi service, prayer or tune, although even the Senior Rabbi of the S&P Sephardi Community of the UK was present

Furthermore, UJS does not discuss the inequalities that we face both in the Jewish community and in wider society. It is vital to the health of UJS' cross-communal and representative values that this changes

How do you want it to happen?

1. Make sure Sepharadi/Mizrahi tunes and prayers are included in services at UJS events. If it's an event with more than one service, there can be an Ashkenazi and a Sepharadi/Mizrahi service, either in alteration or simultaneously
2. Wherever possible, include one Sephardi dish at Shabbat meals.
3. Buy non-Ashkenazi siddurim such as Birkat Shelomo or the "Daily and occasional prayers" used by S&P in London
4. Encourage J-Socs to invite Sepharadi/Mizrahi speakers, make services and events inclusive of Sepharadi/Mizrahi traditions, and help J-Socs run events on Sepharadi/Mizrahi traditions
5. Make sure that at UJS events Birkat Hamazon is either sung with an Ashkenazi and a Sepharadi/Mizrahi tune in alternation, or Bendigamos added
6. Run events on Sepharadi/Mizrahi cultures, for example music, films, clothing and food/history/teachings and halakha
7. Commemorate the expulsion of Spanish Jewry and of Jews from Arab Countries
8. Work the Sephardi and Mizrahi groups, such as Spanish and Portuguese synagogues, to make their spaces friendly and accessible to students
9. Include Sephardi and Mizrahi Students in UJS Liberation Networks

Motion Title: UJ8 Chumashim at Shabbatons

Proposer's name: Jodeci Joseph

Proposer's J-Soc: Hertfordshire

Secunder's name: Elyahu Goldsobel

Secunder's J-Soc: Birckbeck

**Not prioritised for
discussion by those
present.**

What's the idea?

It's important in Judaism to read the Torah portion while laining is happening on Shabbos morning. It's specifically necessary to read from one's individual copy called Chumashim.

How do you want it to happen?

At every residential shabbaton, UJS should provide chumashim with English translation.

Motion Title: UJ9: Meet the President

Proposer's name: Jodeci Joseph

Proposer's J-Soc: Hertfordshire

Seconder's name: Elyahu Goldsobel

Seconder's J-Soc: Birckbeck

**Not prioritised for
discussion by those
present.**

What's the idea?

Its so important that all Jewish University students know and understand who their leader is. In order that the UJS presidents gets to meet as many Jewish students as possible. Also, to allow Jewish students across the country to ask questions they may have to the President.

How do you want it to happen?

In order for this motion to be successful it would be imperative for the President to visit every JSOC in the country at least once a year for a JSOC event. Even if its a lunch and learn, Friday night dinner or a mad social. It would just be great for the president to see, on the ground the great work students are doing on campus.

Motion Title: UJ10 Our community based on our historical background

Proposer's name: Elyahu Goldsobel

Proposer's J-Soc: Birckbeck

Secunder's name: Jodeci Joseph

Secunder's J-Soc: Hertfordshire

**Not prioritised for
discussion by those
present.**

What's the idea?

UJS should protect the core historical identity of Jews. This needs to happen in order to get people to participate and engage in conversation to be leaders as students. UJS should acknowledge the hard work we do to build bridges. However, the way it is done at the moment still focuses more on our differences than what we have in common

How do you want it to happen?

1. UJS should remove barriers to look at the faith community from a historical point of view.
2. UJS should make biblical, Talmudic, rabbinic and Kabbalistic sources to be easily accessible to students no matter their level of knowledge, using an online platform.

This would lead to creating a committee to communicate with Jewish courts (communities) across the country to unify with UJS. This should then develop into a committee of 23, lead by the elected President of UJS, to face the problems people outside the jewish community are not facing. The goal is to develop the UJS online platform to facilitate this engagement with our core historical identity, making us all part of the conversation

Motion Title: UJ11 Supporting Jewish students with unique access requirements

Proposer's name: Elyahu Goldsobel

Proposer's J-Soc: Birckbeck

Seconder's name: Jodeci Joseph

Seconder's J-Soc: Hertfordshire

**Not prioritised for
discussion by those
present.**

What's the idea?

UJS is a democratic space which claims to include all Jewish students in the UK and Ireland. Even though UJS works hard to make this possible, some students need different support than others.

The current structure seems to only facilitate to students who do not have specific access requirements.

This motion wants to support students who have access needs in and around the protective characteristics, no matter whether they are diagnosed or yet to be diagnosed.

UJs should support and enable students who identify with specific access requirements, physical or mental, to ensure they can run and participate to the full extent in UJS activities.

How do you want it to happen?

UJS should have a full-time paid member of staff to encourage and enable students with access needs to participate in UJS opportunities, and be present at events, summits, and conferences etc.

This member of staff should be trained specifically in ADHD and autism support, as well as other access needs.

Motion Title: UJ12 Revoking motion UJ24 (2017)

Proposer's name: Daniel Cahn and Bradley Langer

Proposer's J-Soc: KCL and Coventry

Seconder's name: Tom Garcia and Maya Sterrie

Seconder's J-Soc: KCL and Leeds



What's the idea?

1. Object 2.1.5 of UJS's constitution states that the organisation is committed to promoting 'engagement with Israel'
2. Over 90% of UK Jews describe themselves as Zionist.
3. In 2017, UJS Conference passed motion UJ24. This motion dictates that "anti-Zionist viewpoints [must be] represented at all UJS events discussing Israel."
4. Anti-Zionism is the belief that the State of Israel has no right to exist.
5. The IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism states that "Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination" can be an example of antisemitic discourse.
6. Motion UJ24, while ostensibly promoting freedom of expression, fundamentally contradicts UJS's historical and constitutional position.
7. UJS should endeavour to include all Jewish students no matter Zionist or not however this should not be done by diluting UJS's support for Zionism.
8. There are many great Zionist Israel engagement organisations from all sides of the spectrum operating on campuses (e.g. stand with us, Yahad) which UJS could work more closely with to create stimulating Israeli engagement events.

How do you want it to happen?

1. UJS should be at the forefront of providing Zionist education on campus.
2. The motion UJ24 from Conference 2017 which called for anti-zionist speakers at UJS events should be removed from active UJS policy.

UJ12 A: Anti-Israel activism (Add Amendment):

Proposer: Daniel Cahn

1. UJS should commit to not participating in or promoting any forms of anti-Israel activism.

UJ12 B: Anti-Zionist Speaker (Add Amendment):

Proposer: Bradley Langer

1. Anti-Zionist speakers can be included in fair and balanced debates when appropriate.

UJ12 C: Commitment to Zionism (Add Amendment):

Proposer: Bradley Langer

1. UJS will understand “Zionism” to be the Jewish national self-determination in their ancient homeland, the Land of Israel, in accordance with the same right afforded to any other peoples under international law.
2. UJS will work with organisations in the Jewish community to seek wider recognition of this definition.
3. It is perfectly acceptable to question and condemn specific policies of the Israeli government or the government itself, but this does not excuse attacking the internationally proscribed rights of people.
4. UJS should actively work with Zionist Israel engagement organisations from all sides to further the dialogue of students.
5. UJS should use such organisation to train students how to successfully engage with Israel on Campus including having a part of UJS summit devoted to Israel engagement.

Motion Title: UJ13 Clarifying the role of national council

Proposer's name: Daniel Cahn

Proposer's J-Soc: KCL

Seconder's name: Samuel Myerson

Seconder's J-Soc: UCL

**Not prioritised for
discussion by those
present.**

What's the idea?

The role of national council has varied over the years, and UJS Constitution does not make clear exactly how National Council should function. This motion should serve to interpret the constitution and require UJS to facilitate the ability of National Council to perform their constitutional duties.

How do you want it to happen?

1. National Council shall meet regularly with the President, and shall receive regular updates from the President and/or Sabbatical team regarding UJS's activities, to facilitate 7.3.1 of the Constitution.
2. In order to facilitate "scrutinising the decisions made by the President" (7.3.1.1), National Council shall be made aware of any major decisions made by the President.
3. National Council should particularly be made aware of UJS's efforts regarding "social action, liberation, communication, education and inclusivity" (7.3.1.5).
4. In order to "ensur[e] the President upholds the core values of the Union" (7.3.1.3) National Council shall be made aware of any circumstances regarding the President that suggest possible contravention the core values of the Union.
5. "National Council shall meet with the President at least once during an academic term, with a minimum of three meetings during an academic year" (7.3.4) is understood as setting the bare minimum number of National Council meetings to three, and meetings shall take place as frequently as necessary to National Council to fulfil their duties.
6. National Council Meetings may take place in person or via video chat, as appropriate.
7. The Chair of National Council will be given to sufficient ability to publish on UJS's website, either directly or via a member of the UJS team, in order for UJS National Council to "publicise statements after each meeting" (7.3.3).
8. All UJS members shall be made sufficiently aware of what National Council is before the date of National Council elections, so that individuals have



sufficient time, minimally 7 days, to decide to stand, and understanding of what they would be standing for

Motion Title: UJ14 Recognise the value of and uphold the UJS Birthright trips

Proposer's name: Benjamin Freeman

Proposer's J-Soc: Manchester

Seconder's name: Sabrina Verby

Seconder's J-Soc: Brighton and Sussex



Clearly

What's the idea?

1. Birthright trips offer students the opportunity to engage with their Jewish identity in a way that few programs could ever do. It is fundamentally an outreach program; transcending denominational, class, economic status, and gender boundaries.
2. For many students, Birthright is their first time visiting Israel, and for others, Israel is a country they visited many times before, but never in an educational capacity. The program therefore offers a unique opportunity for students to investigate the importance of Israel to their Jewish identity.
3. Given that Zionism is a factor in the vast majority of Jewish Students' identities, students who have not previously been able to should be given the opportunity to experience Israel. The value of birthright must be recognized.

How do you want it to happen?

1. UJS shall commit to continue offering Birthright trips for Jewish students of all backgrounds from across the UK.
2. UJS shall recognise the importance of Birthright trips in allowing Jewish students to explore their identity.

Motion Title: UJ15 Establish official ties with Jewish fraternities and sororities

Proposer's name: James Harris

Proposer's J-Soc: Birmingham

Secunder's name: Daniel Cahn

Secunder's J-Soc: KCL

**Not prioritised for
discussion by those
present.**

What's the idea?

Jewish fraternities and sororities inspire leadership in Jewish men and women across the globe.

It is important that UJS adheres to their object of “creating meaningful Jewish campus experiences and inspiring Jewish students to make an enduring commitment to their Jewish identity”.

As the largest Jewish fraternity in the world, AEPI engages Jewish males with their Judaism and creates meaningful Jewish campus experiences for young Jewish men, inspiring the next generation

How do you want it to happen?

1. UJS and J-Socs should work with fraternities and sororities to inspire the next generation of Jewish leaders and create meaningful campus experiences for Jewish men and women across the country.
2. UJS does not endorse any actions by J-Socs to discourage the work of fraternities and sororities in creating meaningful campus experiences for Jewish students.
3. UJS will support the establishment of Jewish sorority chapters across the UK.

Motion Title: UJ16 UJS commitment to Israel Advocacy

Proposer's name: Zak Wagman

Proposer's J-Soc: Warwick

Seconder's name: Ben Freeman

Seconder's J-Soc: Manchester



What's the idea?

In 2018, UJS' Former President publicly stated that the organisation had 'an unwavering commitment to Israel activism.'

In 2015, UJS conference passed motion CA10, committing the organisation to combat BDS in all its forms.

UJS has for years consistently launched and supported pro-Israel campaigns, including the recurring 'Bridges not Boycotts' campaign which combats 'Israeli Apartheid Week.'

UJS has in effect consistently supported pro-Israel advocacy, and this should be reflected by formal policy passed by conference

How do you want it to happen?

1. To commit UJS' Campaigns Staff and the UJS National Council to continue to devote their time and resources to support pro-Israel advocacy led by individual students, Jewish Societies and Israel Societies.
2. To ensure that UJS Campaign Staff continue to promote and create national pro-Israel campaigns on campus.
3. To ensure that the National Council endorse and partner with appropriate and legitimate organisations who pursue Israel advocacy work on campus for joint-campaigns and educational programming.

Motion Title: UJ17 Minchah Break

Proposer's name: Elliot Ohrenstein

Proposer's J-Soc: KCL

Secunder's name: Tom Garcia

Secunder's J-Soc: KCL

**Not prioritised for
discussion by those
present.**

What's the idea?

Have a break during conference to daven Minchah

How do you want it to happen?

Literally, just take a break from proceedings so those who want to daven Minchah, acc. their customs, can do so.

Motion Title: UJ18 Free, Fair and Democratic UJS

Proposer's name: Seth Marks

Proposer's J-Soc: Brighton and Sussex

Seconder's name: Joshua Davis

Seconder's J-Soc: Leicester

**Not prioritised for
discussion by those
present.**

What's the idea?

Last year votes were distributed irregularly, making it difficult for campaigners to energise a voting core. Even when people registered prior to the election they were not supplied a vote until a significant amount of time after voting had opened. This meant that some of the early momentum the campaigns built up simply went to waste. Additionally, many people who were already members claimed they were never sent their vote at all. Jewish Students should not have to chase the returning officer to be given their rightful vote. This simply is not good enough for a professional organisation.

Jewish students who are getting involved for the first time also need to be able to have the chance to take part in democracy in order to encourage them to continue to get involved with UJS in the future.

UJS is a democratic organisation and should behave as such, the responsibility for a fair election rests squarely at their feet. Any organisation employed on behalf of UJS must understand this responsibility

How do you want it to happen?

An official UJS apology statement should be made to Lawrence Rosenberg regarding the errors made last year during the campaign. These include but are not exclusive to; failing to post his manifesto on time and attempting to cover the mistake up without apology, handing him an incorrect campaign suspension for an incident which occurred years prior to the election and the general failures of organisations in regard to his candidacy. The apology must be considered fit and appropriate by the Chair of the National Council before publishing

Motion Title: UJ19 Mezuzah's

Proposer's name: Elliot Ohrenstein

Proposer's J-Soc: KCL

Secunder's name: Tom Garcia

Secunder's J-Soc: KCL

**Not prioritised for
discussion by those
present.**

What's the idea?

UJS would distribute mezuzah's to be stuck to doorways dorms of students and [temporarily] to rooms where J-Soc events are taking place.

How do you want it to happen?

Distributed with J-Soc freshers packs

Motion Title: UJ20 There's no 'I' in or 'we' in Sabb Team

Proposer's name: Zak Wagman

Proposer's J-Soc: Warwick

Seconder's name: James Harris

Seconder's J-Soc: Birmingham

**Not prioritised for
discussion by those
present.**

What's the idea?

1. The Motion UJ4, passed at last years conference, proposed the idea that “the choice of organisations to promote [in reference to the peaceful resolution of Israeli-Palestinian conflict] will be made by the UJS President and Campaigns team.”
2. Given that UJS hires campaigns officers, it should be primarily but not exclusively at their discretion to conclude which organisations should be promoted and worked with. The issues addressed in UJ4 fall entirely within the remit of campaigns officers, and decisions should therefore be mostly left to their expertise and experience.
3. Campaigns officers are explicitly hired to make decisions on these issues and the sabbatical team as well as the National Council should be allowed equal input on what organisations they choose to affiliate themselves with.
4. Vitally the language leaves way for the President to infringe on the autonomy of the Campaigns Director to do his/her job appropriately. If a Campaign manager wishes to produce something in cohort with an organisation the President has negative feelings towards, this could lead to potential tension within the sabbatical team

How do you want it to happen?

1. Motion UJ4 shall be amended to give the entire sabbatical team including the National Council input in deciding the choice of organisations that UJS will promote in relation to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. This is within the obvious limits of conference policy and constitutional requirements.
2. UJS shall continue to supporting a strong Campaigns team, which is well experienced and educated, and thus apt in making these decisions

Motion Title: UJ21 Kashrut Training

Proposer's name: Elliot Ohrenstein

Proposer's J-Soc: KCL

Secunder's name: Tom Garcia

Secunder's J-Soc: KCL

**Not prioritised for
discussion by those
present.**

What's the idea?

Arranging Kashrut education and training to J-Socs and students in order that they be able to Self-cater events/in halls, in accordance with Kashrut laws, to accommodate for Jewish students who observe more stringent Kashrut laws.

How do you want it to happen?

Arrange for KLBD or some Jewish organisation (e.g. Chabad, Aish, etc.) who can arrange to teach Kashrut laws to J-Soc committee members and students, as well as prepare notes on the subject.

Motion Title: UJ22 Redistribution of funding

Proposer's name: Elliot Ohrenstein

Proposer's J-Soc: KCL

Secunder's name: Tom Garcia

Secunder's J-Soc: KCL

**Not prioritised for
discussion by those
present.**

What's the idea?

From personal accounts, it appears UJS spends a lot of money on larger meetings, such as summit, as well as on benefits for certain students (e.g. meal costs during meetings with UJS employees). I'm suggesting UJS save funds, which otherwise would've been spend on this on other likely causes (e.g. counselling)

How do you want it to happen?

I am too uninformed to suggest a plan of action. However, if passed, there should be a follow-up survey to find out how the students would like to see money spent

Motion Title: UJ23 Survey for Funding

Proposer's name: Elliot Ohrenstein

Proposer's J-Soc: KCL

Secunder's name: Tom Garcia

Secunder's J-Soc: KCL

**Not prioritised for
discussion by those
present.**

What's the idea?

UJS survey students from across the country to see how they'd UJS to fund J-Socs and causes.

How do you want this to happen?

Survey put on website with UJS staff and students privately messaging people, asking them to fill it out.

Motion Title: UJ24 Counselling

Proposer's name: Elliot Ohrenstein

Proposer's J-Soc: KCL

Seconder's name: Tom Garcia

Seconder's J-Soc: KCL

**Not prioritised for
discussion by those
present.**

What's the idea?

UJS to offer emotional support and counselling to J-Soc committee members, to help deal with the pressures that may make it hard for them to help run their respective J-Socs.

How do you want it to happen?

Perhaps UJS staff to undergo training so that they can do this, or possibly arranging with another organisation (e.g. JAMI) to arrange counselling

Motion Title: UJ25 UJS x International Students

Proposer's name: Marta Musolino

Proposer's J-Soc: Warwick

Seconder's name: Sara Romanin Jacur

Seconder's J-Soc: Warwick

**Not prioritised for
discussion by those
present.**

What's the idea?

International students face various issues when moving to the UK to study. It is UJS's role to guide and support them, facilitating their Jewish life on campus. International students enrich the Jewish community in the UK as well as our society and universities. UJS's aim is to create a community of students that is united in its diversity and international students are an integral part of this.

How do you want it to happen?

1. Create an 'International Students Network' to put perspective and new international students in touch with students from their home country already studying in the UK
2. Work with other countries' national unions in order to be more accessible and proactive towards international students
3. Improve the information available on UJS website for international students

Community

Motion Title: CO1 Observance of kashrut in the late capitalist era

Proposer's name: Rachel Barrett

Proposer's J-Soc: KCL

Seconder's name: Joanna Phillips

Seconder's J-Soc: Bath

**Not prioritised for
discussion by those
present.**

What's the idea?

1. UJS should not sit on the fence when it comes to interpreting halacha (or any issue)
2. It is clear from Exodus 23:19 'you shall not cook a kid in its mothers' milk' that it is prohibited under Jewish law to cook porridge with oat milk.
3. If the porridge made from a cereal other than oat, it is permissible to cook it in oat milk.

How do you want it to happen?

1. UJS shall declare a Teshuva that porridge cooked in oak milk is treyf.
2. UJS shall start a social media and poster campaign to raise awareness of this teshuva.
3. On the issue of whether pyrex is glass or pottery, UJS should refer to the judgement of Rabbi Louis Jacobs.

Motion Title: CO2 Gendered Hate Crime

Proposer's name: Emma Jacobs

Proposer's J-Soc: Leeds

Seconder's name: Dalia Landau

Seconder's J-Soc: Leeds



What's the idea?

Hate speech, such as antisemitism, islamophobia and other forms of racism are statistically more likely to be received by women and non-binary individuals. Statistically, women are more likely to receive online abuse than men for making the exact same comments. It is clear that there is a link between all forms of hatred and hate speech, and to this effect, it is important the UJS targets different hatreds with different tactics

How do you want it to happen?

1. UJS to run a social media campaign on gendered antisemitism in conjunction with CST and other relevant group.
2. UJS to recognise and speak out against the specific hatred against Jewish women and non-binary individuals

Motion Title: CO3 UJS Block at Pride

Proposer's name: Emma Jacobs

Proposer's J-Soc: Leeds

Seconder's name: Jess Baker

Seconder's J-Soc: Leeds



Unanimously

What's the idea?

As a cross-communal organisation, it is important that UJS celebrates LGBT+ culture and demonstrates publically its support for students from marginalised identities. This commitment to allyship and solidarity is shown throughout the year through the liberation network/ conference and with Keshet training at Summit.

Pride is one of the most prominent ways in which UJS can celebrate LGBT+ identity and culture, and as a prominent voice in the Jewish community, it is imperative that UJS has a visible presence.

How do you want it to happen?

UJS should participate and organise within the Keshet bloc for London Pride.

1. We should be visible by getting a UJS rainbow flag (or similar merch) made.
2. Wherever possible, UJS should participate in other pride marches nationally

Motion Title: CO4 Stop the Stigma – Men’s mental health

Proposer’s name: Nathan Boroda

Proposer’s J-Soc: Warwick

Seconder’s name: Noah Libson

Seconder’s J-Soc: Goldsmith’s



Overwhelmingly

What’s the idea?

It is clear that poor mental health, linked to body image and peer pressure, disproportionately affects young men. Statistically, suicide is the biggest killer of men under the age of 35. UJS does fantastic work on combatting poor mental health, but is yet to recognise its unique and devastating impact on men. Through targeted action, UJS must tailor its campaigns and lobbying of services to address these issues.

How do you want it to happen?

1. UJS should run a specific social media campaign on mens’ mental health
2. UJS, when lobbying services or service providers, must specifically address the unique issues that men face
3. UJS should provide education on the specific issues that men face

Motion Title: CO5 Affirming UJS's commitment to Israel and a democratic and Jewish state by supporting democratic civil society organisations in Israel

Proposer's name: Noah Libson

Proposer's J-Soc: Goldsmiths

Secunder's name: Jess Baker

Secunder's J-Soc: Leeds



Overwhelmingly

What's the idea?

1. UJS represents a proud Zionist voice, one which supports Israel as a Jewish and democratic state.
2. As such, we have the responsibility of defending and protecting Israel when it is slandered, but also ensuring that civil society organisations such as Breaking the Silence, Yesh Din and B'Tselem can continue to be part of and uphold Israeli democracy.
3. The functioning of these organisations, which service checks and balances on a democratic state are part and parcel of a healthy democracy. They ensure that the government maintains democratic principles such as equality and freedom of expression - principles laid out in the Declaration of Independence as essential components of the Jewish and democratic state of Israel.
4. These organisations are threatened by anti-democratic policies proposed to the Knesset and an increasingly hostile and shrinking democratic space, where those who are supposed to be safeguarding these principles of democracy - members of the Knesset - often publicly express their discriminatory and anti-democratic views and agenda, and speak against these organisations.

How do you want it to happen?

1. These organisations are vital to the continuation of a healthy Israeli democracy. As such, UJS must actively support the existence of these organisations.
2. UJS must reach out to these organisations so that they have a channel to educate British students.
3. This includes programming meetings or activities with these organisations on UJS trips to Israel and doing events with them when representatives are in the UK. Engagement with these organisations is key to understanding how best to support Israeli democracy and legitimate criticism of Israel on campus'

Motion Title: CO6 Antisemitism in the Labour Party

Proposer's name: Gabe Milne

Proposer's J-Soc: Sheffield

Seconder's name: Nathan Boroda

Seconder's J-Soc: Warwick



Overwhelmingly

What's the idea?

The Labour Party has failed to adequately deal with antisemitism within its own ranks.

The Jewish community held an unprecedented rally against antisemitism in the Labour Party in March 2018.

Some of Labour's own MPs have called the party "institutionally racist".

The Labour Party have still failed to fully implement the reasonable requests made by the Jewish Leadership Council and the Board of Deputies in Spring 2018.

Labour MP Chris Williamson committed a veiled attack on Sheffield J-Soc calling them "opponents of common sense socialism" and "haters" after speaking out against his invitation by Sheffield Labour Students.

How do you want it to happen?

1. Mandate UJS to condemn antisemitism in the Labour Party.
2. For UJS to condemn Chris Williamson for his disgusting attack on Sheffield J-Soc.
3. For UJS to continue working with the Jewish Labour Movement, Labour Students, and other allies in the Labour Party who have stood up against antisemitism.
4. For UJS to continue delivering antisemitism training alongside JLM and Labour Students at university Labour Clubs.
5. For UJS to support the efforts of the Board of Deputies and the Jewish Leadership Council to have their Spring 2018 demands met

Motion Title: CO7 A Brexit Deal that works for Students

Proposer's name: Gabe Milne

Proposer's J-Soc: Sheffield

Seconder's name: Sally Patterson and Nathan Boroda

Seconder's J-Soc: Bristol and Warwick



Overwhelmingly

Whats the idea?

- 1) On 23rd June 2016, the referendum on EU Membership was narrowly won by the Leave Campaign, however young people, students and the Jewish Community overwhelmingly voted Remain.
- 2) Since the EU referendum result, a number of promises which were made by the official Leave Campaign (members of which have been very senior members of Government during the last two years), have at best been made to have seemed foolish, or at worst outright lies.
- 3) Hate crime increased as a result of the EU referendum and was one of reasons for an increase in antisemitism in 2016 according to CST.
- 4) HM Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services has warned of a spike in hate crime around the date of the UK's possible exit of the European Union.
- 5) UJS has a proud history of fighting fascism and racism and defending the Jewish community from the likes of Steve Bannon and Victor Orban - men with clear connections with and lauded by Leave campaigners.
- 6) Prime Minister Theresa May has brought back a deal to Parliament that includes removing support for EU students to study in the UK and the support given to UK students to study in Europe. The deal will also cost £100 billion a year to the UK's economy according to Britain's longest established independent research institute.
- 7) Therefore, if the deal is voted down in Parliament on the 11th December, UJS should stand with Jewish students studying across the EU and the UK, join the fight against the far right and support a People's Vote on the Brexit Deal.

How do you want it to happen?

1. To support efforts by youth and student groups including, but not exclusive to, NUS to lobby Members of Parliament for a public vote on Brexit.
2. To campaign for the rights of EU students in the UK and UK students studying in Europe.
3. To encourage Jewish community voices to support a public vote on Brexit.

Motion Title: CO8 UJS should work with Limmud UK to put on a student-focused event in the style of a day at Limmud Festival

Proposer's name: Mo Makin

Proposer's J-Soc: Leeds

Secunder's name: Nat Kunin

Secunder's J-Soc: Durham

**Not prioritised for
discussion by those
present.**

What's the idea?

- Students have many brilliant talents and have expert knowledge on Jewish-related subjects.
- An event in the style of a day at the highly successful Limmud Festival would give a great platform for students to showcase their ability amongst the wider student and Jewish communities.
- Members of Limmud UK's board are enthusiastic about working with UJS to help achieve this.
- For context: Every winter, Limmud's flagship event, "Limmud Festival" provides hundreds of sessions on almost everything Jewish-related for thousands of people. Sessions range from kosher sushi-making to debates about Israeli politics to Torah learning sessions. An event with something for everyone. Attending develops a student's knowledge of the Jewish world.

How do you want it to happen?

1. UJS should instruct J-Soc Officers to work with J-Socs around the country to source Jewish students to showcase their talents and knowledge on Jewish-related issues.
2. UJS should work with Limmud UK to promote and organise this event

Motion Title: CO9 Solidarity with Mark Lewis

Proposer's name: Joshua Davies

Proposer's J-Soc: Leicester

Seconder's name: Avromi Endfield

Seconder's J-Soc: London

**Not prioritised for
discussion by those
present.**

What's the idea?

Mark Lewis is one of the United Kingdom's foremost media and libel lawyers. He is a stalwart of the Jewish community and a tireless campaigner against antisemitism, racism and intolerance. Lewis is himself a former prominent student campaigner.

Mr Lewis has consistently defended the vulnerable in his professional career, taking on corrupt multinational corporations for clients with little if any resources, and xenophobic commentators such as Katie Hopkins and George Galloway.

Mr Lewis was fined by the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) for responding to years of online antisemitic abuse he has faced from neo-Nazis on cyberspace.

Nobody in any professional environment or anyone regulated by any institution, including students, should be penalised for standing up to hatred and abuse. Anyone responsible for or complicit in penalising Jews for standing up to antisemitism should be condemned.

How do you want it to happen?

1. UJS passes this symbolic motion in solidarity with Mark Lewis.
2. UJS expresses its deep appreciation and gratitude that Jewish students are able to rely on generous members of the Jewish community like Mark Lewis, who has consistently helped Jewish students pro-bono when facing difficult legal situations in the continuing fight against campus bigotry.
3. UJS expresses its deep concern towards the idea that anyone should be punished for standing up to hatred. The only people who deserve sanction are the abusers and racists, not their victims.

Motion Title: CO10 Challenge UJS' relationship with FOSIS

Proposer's name: Joel Shapson

Proposer's J-Soc: London

Seconder's name: Joshua Davies

Seconder's J-Soc: Leicester

**Not prioritised for
discussion by those
present.**

What's the idea?

The Federation of Student Islamic Societies, FOSIS, is the national representative body for Muslims in the UK.

UJS have previously partnered with FOSIS, who have hosted numerous extremists at its annual conference and other events,

FOSIS has been condemned by the British government many times for its failure to “fully challenge terrorist and extremist ideology”.

How do you want it to happen?

1. UJS to work with organisations not limiting to Student Rights of the Henry Jackson Society and NUS to protect Jewish students against religious extremism and how this can be met in a way that ensures their safety, but does not result in Islamophobia or any other form of racism.
2. To cease and desist from all partnerships and affiliations in the future between UJS and FOSIS.
3. To condemn FOSIS when they or their affiliated subsidiaries host extremists at any of its or its affiliates' events, both national and local.

Appendix:

Policy Lapse:

Policy from 2015 successfully challenged:

Motion Title: CO4: Campaigning for mental health awareness

Proposer: Louise Cohen

Seconded: Daisy Bogod

What's the idea?

For UJS to commit to mental health awareness and education

How do you want it to happen?

1. To commit to running a mental health campaign
2. Educate students on what to say and what not to say to a person with a mental illness.
3. Educate students on key signs that a friend could have a mental illness.
4. To create an open space on campus' to ensure that mental health can be spoken about.
5. For individual J-Socs to be able to run mental health events such as tea afternoons or yoga sessions especially around exam and coursework deadline times.

Motion Title: JC2: Support smaller J-Socs

Proposer: James Wilder

Seconded Jonathan Shapiro

What's the idea?

UJS should actively promote the development of smaller J-Socs by providing more monetary input to help them out further.

How do you want it to happen?

1. Provide more money for smaller J-Socs for the many events that are put on by hardworking committees. Without this, the events arranged are very limited in what can be achieved with the budgets they have.
2. Further encourage smaller J-Socs to do inter-J-Soc or regional events so the smaller J-Socs can bring their members together. This would give them more



potential to do different events and activities that they may otherwise be unable to, either due to lack of money or not having enough people.