

## **2248 UEASU must recognise Holocaust Memorial Day and support Jewish students**

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### **Union notes:**

1. The Holocaust was the unique genocide perpetrated by Nazi Germany, killed 6 million Jews and 5 million other people including disabled and LGBTQ individuals, people of Roma descent and political opponents.
2. Holocaust Memorial Day is a national day of commemoration of those who perished in the Holocaust.
3. UEASU has in recent years not publicly acknowledged Holocaust Memorial Day, either with events or acknowledgements on social media.
4. Jewish student's engagement with the student union structures is considerably low, especially when compared to other unions of similar sizes.
5. Campuses have often been the place in recent years where fascism and the far-right rear its head: in recent months Holocaust denial literature has been distributed at Cambridge and UCL and swastikas have been daubed on halls of residences and university signs. Swastikas were also found at Durham, Goldsmiths and Coventry.
6. At NUS National Conference 2018, there were several accusations of anti-Semitic behaviour, with Jewish students being brought to tears and feeling uncomfortable on conference floor.
7. The Union of Jewish Students is the voice of over 8,500 Jewish students, spanning 60 Jewish Societies (J-Socs) on campuses across the UK and Ireland. UJS is traditional, progressive, cultural and spiritual; members come from the left, centre and right and can be found across religious and political spectrums.
8. There have been recent high profile instances of anti-Semitic behaviour within UK progressive parties, and the Enough is Enough campaign has been specifically launched to tackle anti-Semitism in the Labour Party.

### **Union believes:**

1. We must formally recognise the Holocaust and contribute to the spread of holocaust education.
2. Jewish students deserve a student movement both at UEA and nationally that
3. NUS has an unfortunate history with serious instances of anti-Semitism, and despite claims of change we still see significant issues despite the issues being raised for a considerable time.
4. There is a difference between anti-Semitism and anti-Zionism, but too often discourse and actions with the student movement have conflated to two.

5. An education system where Jewish students feel scared and unwelcome for just being Jewish is not an education that will ever be accessible, free and liberated.

**Union resolves:**

1. To ensure that the union annually commemorates Holocaust Memorial Day, by working with the Jewish community at UEA and the Union of Jewish Students.
2. To mandate the Student Officer Committee to reach out to the Union of Jewish Students and the UEA Jewish Society committee to develop engagement with and relations with Jewish students on campus, and to run campaigns with UJS.
3. To include anti-Semitism training as part of the officer and student leaders training for the incoming elected representatives.
4. To reaffirm our commitment to allowing Jewish students themselves to determine what is and is not anti-Semitic.
5. To provide our delegates and observers to NUS events with information of how to report instances of any oppressive or prejudicial behaviour at NUS events.