

Policy Number: 2427

Policy Date: 23rd January 2020

6f)	Defend Erasmus Funding
Proposer: Roo Pitt (Undergraduate Faculty Convenor, Arts & Humanities) Secunder: Joe Eastoe (PPL School Convenor)	
Council Notes <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The recent decision taken by the UK parliament not to include a commitment to Erasmus Funding within the EU Withdrawal Bill by rejecting the amendment to the bill, "new clause 10".2. Studying abroad has been evidenced to significantly improve the employability of graduates and provide essential experience to those students studying modern languages and cultural studies.3. "Currently, 53% of UK university students who study abroad do so through the scheme. In 2017, 16,561 UK students participated in Erasmus, while 31,727 EU nationals came to the UK." (Source: BBC News)4. That whilst the recent decision made by parliament does not mean the UK is leaving the Erasmus programme, it does raise concerns over the government's commitment to remaining a part of programme and means they are not mandated to negotiate for continued membership.	
Council Believes <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. That the removal of Erasmus funding would have a significant detrimental impact on both home students studying abroad and international students studying here at UEA.2. That the grant supplied by the Erasmus Programme provides all students, regardless of their financial circumstances to have the opportunity to study abroad.3. That the Erasmus program provides mutual benefit for both the UK and the EU	
Council Resolves <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To mandate the Campaigns and Democracy Officer to develop a campaign with counterparts through the NUS to lobby parliament highlighting both the importance of being a full member of the Erasmus programme and to lobby the government to include remaining a full member of Erasmus in negotiations post Brexit.2. To mandate the Campaigns and Democracy Officer and both Undergraduate and Postgraduate Education Officers to put together a report on the impact on both home and international students if the UK's participation in the Erasmus programme is withdrawn and present these findings to the university, union council and local politicians.	