

Proposer: Jamie Grant  
Seconded: Astrid Smallembroek  
Date: 20/03/2019



## Policy Review Part 2

### **GM Notes:**

In accordance with our 'Lapsed Policy' Policy, we must review active policy every three years.

### **GM Believes:**

The motions in Appendix 1 are either factually out of date, superseded or no longer relevant.

### **GM Resolves:**

These motions will not be renewed going forward.

## **Appendix 1**

G.M. Notes:

1. The recent Conference of various nations to ban C.F.C.s.
2. The various disasters including Kings Cross, Clapham, Glasgow, Piper Alpha and on the Airways.
3. The recent uproar over food hygiene and the outbreak of Legionnaires Disease in London.
4. The enormous dangers being posed to the environment around the world.
5. The increasing release of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere through, for instance de-forestation, is causing the 'greenhouse effect'. The resulting raising of worldwide temperatures could have severe repercussions.
6. The growth in the hole in the ozone layer - caused by the release of CFC's into the atmosphere. This will threaten life on the planet if it continues to grow.
7. The acidification of lakes and rivers through acid rain.

G.M. Believes:

1. That the sudden interest of the Tory Govt. in the environment is entirely hypocritical.
2. That nuclear power stations are not cleaner than conventional power stations, which can be adapted to significantly reduce emissions that are harmful to the ozone layer.
3. That there is no safe way of controlling nuclear power stations. Nuclear power is not a cheap or efficient means of generating electricity, but an extremely lethal by-product of the production of nuclear weapons.
4. That the Government's pretended concern with lead in petrol is cynical when cuts in public transport mean more congestion on the road.
5. That the privatisation of the water supply will lead to more dangerous drinking water. Already water is polluted as a result of cost-cutting, and regulations will be even less strict if private industry takes over.
6. That the constant pursuit of profit leads to a lack of basic safety precautions and standards of hygiene that are regularly endangering the environment. The disasters at Kings Cross, Clapham, the Piper Alpha oil platform and on the airways are a direct result of this reckless pursuit of profit.
7. The Friends of the Earth and Greenpeace do invaluable work in exposing the excesses arising out of capitalism's thirst for profit. However, a fundamental solution is required, not just limited reforms.
8. The Tory Government - acting in the interest of the capitalists, are not genuinely about protecting the environment. Their record on environmental issues speaks for itself:
  - a) Britain is the only country so far to refuse to make a 30% reduction in sulphur emissions that cause acid rain.
  - b) The Government has resisted 30 separate attempts to amend the electricity privatisation bill to force the industry to cut down on pollution, although it is responsible for one-third of all British emissions of carbon dioxide and plans to increase these emissions by 25% over the next 15 years.

- c) Energy ministers have accepted the industry's plea to delay action to curb the greenhouse effect, and have heavily cut back Britain's programme to promote energy conservation, described by Mrs. Thatcher as 'crucial' in combating the impending climate change due to the greenhouse effect.
9. This new-found concern with environmental problems is not unconnected with the fact that 74 'green' motions were originally tabled for the Tory Party Conference. However, the gap between the Government's words and deeds is a direct result of the threat that these proposals pose to the profits of the very same companies that donate enormous sums of money to the Tory Party.
  10. The anarchical capitalist system is fundamentally responsible for these environmental dangers.
  11. In their search for profits, the multinational conglomerates are exploiting the resources of the world with no consideration of the effects.
  12. Environmental questions will be disregarded by the capitalists if they threaten profits.
  13. Environmental protection can only be guaranteed under a socialist plan for energy, by which all types of energy production would be considered on the basis of safety, efficiency and environmental concern. On this basis, an immediate programme to eliminate waste through insulation and conservation would be implemented, which could save energy and create thousands of jobs in the building industry.

G.M. Instructs:

1. To call for the immediate closure of all nuclear power stations.
2. To campaign for cheap and improved public transport.
3. To oppose the privatisation of the water and electricity industries.

Policy Motion  
Living Rent Campaign

25/2/14

GM notes:

- 1) The formation of the Living Rent Campaign (<http://www.livingrent.org/>) calling on the Scottish Government to:
  - a. Bring Rents Under Control In other countries, there are laws that limit how much landlords can charge, we want that introduced here in Scotland.
  - b. Protect Tenants From Eviction Right now, your landlord doesn't need a reason to evict you. We want to see the abolition of the so-called no-fault grounds for repossession, and for tenants to have the right to appeal all evictions.
  - c. Provide Flexibility and Security Tenants should know they will have a place to live next month without having to lock themselves into long-term contracts.
- 2) That average rent in Aberdeen, over the last three years, has increased by 28%, and more than 11% in Edinburgh. Between 2013 and 2014, average rent price in Stirling has increased by 5%.
- 3) That many other countries and areas have legislation limiting the amount landlords are able to charge in rent, but that Scotland has no such policies.

GM believes:

- 1) That the market in private rented housing has failed.
- 2) That students are one of the key victims of this current set up, with their experiences being more intensive due to scape-goating and a perception that they are a group that can be taken advantage of.
- 3) That housing is not a luxury or an optional extra and that the Scottish Government must regulate rent and ensure security and flexibility for tenants.

GM resolves:

- 1) To affiliate to the Living Rent Campaign and to support their objectives.
- 2) To encourage students to sign-up and to support and co-ordinate direct action in support of the campaign.

Proposer: Amy McDermott  
Secunder: Lauren Marriott

STIRLING UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

GENERAL MEETING POLICY

POLICY HEADING:           MILITARY RESEARCH  
DATE PASSED:            21ST FEBRUARY 1983

G.M. Notes:

1. The continued build up of nuclear weapons worldwide, including in those countries not possessing a stable form of democratic government.
2. The prolonged world recession, the only growth areas of government expenditure in this country being unemployment and defence.
3. The capital-intensive nature of military research and development relative to employment opportunities in education and welfare, and in alternative research and development.
4. The increased public support for disarmament.

G.M. Believes:

1. That there is a need for socially useful research and production, and a greater investment in education and the social services.
2. Support of CND is a matter of urgency with regard to the imminent deployment of Cruise and Trident.

G.M. Instructs:

1. S.U.S.A. to oppose nuclear military research and recruitment on campus through:
  - a) the setting up of a nuclear free zone, and requesting Court to support both the district and regional councils' nuclear free zones;
  - b) actively working through the formal channels of the University Administration, i.e. Finance and General Purposes Committee, Careers and Appointments Committee;
  - c) giving support to student C.N.D. peace week (March 14th-21st);
  - d) prioritising the aims of the peace camps, especially Faslane and assisting the setting up of a second Faslane peace camp.

G.M. Reaffirms:

1. Past policy of 29th September 1980.

## **ACTION ON NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT**

### **General Meeting Notes:**

- The motion passed by General Meeting on the 12th November 2013 by 47 votes to 14 with 6 abstentions entitled "Trident and Nuclear Disarmament";
- That the aforementioned motion commits the Student Union to "practically support, as far as is reasonably possible, CND's campaign against nuclear weapons";
- The annual report published by IKV Pax Christi, entitled Don't Bank on the Bomb (2013 edition ISBN 978-90-70443-26-9), which lists producers of Weapons of Mass Destruction and the financial institutions that invest in them, and divides these into 3 categories (Hall of Fame, Runners Up and Hall of Shame), and
- That the Student Union holds investments in and has relationships with businesses that produce or fund nuclear weapons, as does the university, and accordingly indirectly funds nuclear weapon production in ways that it is not legally obligated to do, for example by paying taxes.

### **General Meeting Believes:**

- That it is inconsistent for the Student Union to be funding weapons which it opposes and campaigns against;
- That the Student Union should divest from the companies listed as producers and those financial institutions listed in the Hall of Shame of the aforementioned report, and hold no investments with them;
- That the Student Union should not enter into any contracts with or provide facilities or services to, other than may be required by law, any company that is listed as a producer of nuclear weapons or financial institution that is listed in the Hall of Shame of the aforementioned report, and
- That divestment increases the stigmatisation of nuclear weapons and also reduces the amount of capital available to assist in their production.

### **General Meeting Resolves:**

- To reaffirm its commitment to the policy 'Trident and Nuclear Disarmament', thereby renewing that policy and recommencing its 4 year 'shelf life';
- That the Student Union will divest at the earliest possible opportunity and will have completed divestment at a date no later than 12 months after the passing of this motion by General Meeting (20th October 2015) from all companies and institutions named in the Hall of Shame or as Nuclear Weapon Producers in the Report *Don't Bank on the Bomb*, hereafter referred to as 'the categories', and shall furthermore specify the reason for divestment to the institution or company divested from;
- That the Student Union shall refuse to enter into any contract or renew any existing contract with an institution or company in the categories;
- That the Student Union shall bring full pressure to bear to force the university to do likewise, especially with regard to commercial concessions;
- To provide no facility to any company or institution in the categories, including advertising or stalls, and
- To always source and use the most recent version of the *Don't Bank on the Bomb report*, in order to not disadvantage those institutions that have improved their stance.

**Note:** A copy of the 2013 report, the most recent at the time of writing, is attached to this motion as an appendix\*

\*<http://www.dontbankonthebomb.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/DBOTB2013-FINAL.pdf>

Proposed by CND

POLICY HEADING: NUCLEAR ENERGY

DATE PASSED : 17/4/78

G.M. Notes:

1. Recent Government decisions concerning the expansion of the nuclear industry.
2. Anti-nuclear demonstrations in France and Germany as the nuclear sector is developed in those countries.
3. Opposition to the development of the uranium mining industry in Australia and the banning of the Friends of the Earth March which formed part of the campaign.
4. That the idea of a future energy gap constitutes a cornerstone of the case for nuclear power.
5. That the energy gap hypothesis has been challenged by recent work at Sussex University.
6. That there is considerable contention as to whether a nuclear power station yields net energy.
7. That reports in recent years by the World Health Organisation and the National Radiological Protection Board have stressed that hazards facing workers in the nuclear industry remain largely unknown.
8. The long term problems posed by the operation of nuclear power stations, namely storage of nuclear waste.
9. Activity of the Special Branch in connection with the nuclear industry and the restrictions this imposes upon civil liberties.
10. That of 44,000 tonnes planned uranium production in 1978, 9,000 tonnes is to come from S. Africa.

G.M. Believes:

1. That the nuclear military industrial complex is the main driving force of the pro-nuclear lobby.
2. That opposition to nuclear power arising from the expansion of the nuclear industry and its existing operations is justified.

G.M. Resolves:

1. To instruct the CSA to actively support and mobilise opposition to the existing nuclear industry and expansion thereof.
  2. To instruct the CSA to actively support and mobilise for the campaign opposing the planned development of an advanced gas-cooled reactor at Torness.
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Proposer: Amy McDermott  
Seconder: Lauren McKay  
Date: 19<sup>th</sup> January 2015



**GM Notes:**

- The establishment of SUSPS (Scottish Universities Supporting Palestinian Students) by UCAS, NUS, STUC and other campus Unions.
- That the Scottish Government has supported the SUSPS initiative with a £10,000 grant.
- That, as a direct result of SUSPS, a student from Gaza will be undertaking a Master's degree at Queen Margaret University from January, supported by a University fee waiver and a SUSPS bursary.

**GM Believes:**

- That such an initiative would contribute to the personal and professional development of the individual students accessing the scheme.
- That the scheme will also have an impact on the lives of many more Palestinians when the student returns home.

**GM Resolves:**

- To lobby the Principal to waive fees for taught postgraduate courses for Palestinian students.
- To work alongside UCU in holding fundraising events to help support Palestinian students whilst studying in Scotland.

Proposed by Dominic Burns – Red Cross Society President  
Seconded by Lauren Marriott – VP Communities  
Date: 11/02/15



## Charitable Societies

General Meeting notes:

- Charitable Clubs and Societies are an important part of Stirling Students' Union
- Charitable Clubs and Societies are required to charge a membership fee
- All Clubs and Societies are eligible to apply to the Club Grant

General Meeting believes:

- Charitable Clubs and Societies are made up of highly passionate and committed individuals
- The work the individuals do is purely voluntary
- Charitable Clubs and Societies often work in partnership with their local and/or national counterparts
- Charitable Clubs and Societies acquire all necessary materials from local and/or national counterparts

General Meeting resolves:

- Charitable Clubs and Societies have no need to charge a membership fee and shall no longer be required to do so
- Charitable Clubs and Societies may apply to the Club Grant for any further materials they need as long as they are within the aims and objectives of the Society.

**COUNCIL**  
17/10/06



## **Code of Conduct for Student Officers**

### **Council Notes**

1. The motion 'Student Officers Deserve Respect' passed by Council on 2nd May 2006

### **Council Believes**

1. The attached code of conduct for student officers will ensure that officers can carry out their duties free from bullying and harassment.

### **Council Instructs**

1. The attached code of conduct be adopted.

Proposed on October 9th, 2006  
Proposed by: Chris Baxter  
Seconded by: Robert Hudd

## Code of Conduct for Student Officers

1. All elected student officers have a responsibility to represent and act in the best interests of the members of the Association.
2. Student officers will, at all times, fulfil their duties in accordance with the Association's Equal Opportunities Policy and Staff-Student Protocol.
3. While carrying out their duties, every elected officer deserves to be treated with respect by their peers.
4. Every elected officer has the right to fulfil their elected duties without fear of harassment, bullying, intimidation, ridicule, offence or loss of privacy.
5. Differing views and healthy debate are both welcomed and encouraged.
6. No elected officer shall use external websites, notice boards, clubs and societies, e-mail or any other form of media to bully, harass or denigrate a fellow officer. All Association business shall be made available to the membership via Council approved procedures.
7. The Council of the Association will not tolerate the harassment of any officer by another or the victimisation of an officer for reporting such behaviour.
8. Harassment can be a single serious offence or repeated, sustained behaviour.
9. Any officer who feels they are being bullied or harassed while carrying out their duties is encouraged to come forward as soon as possible and, where possible, provide evidence to a Sabbatical officer. The Sabbatical officer should then attempt to resolve the matter amicably between the parties involved. Where this is not possible, and with the consent of the complainant, the matter shall be referred to the Discipline Committee.
10. If Discipline Committee upholds the complaint, it shall have the authority to impose any sanction, or combination of sanctions, at its disposal. This includes recommending a motion of no-confidence in the officer.
11. In accepting this code, Council grants Discipline Committee the additional authority to suspend for up to two meetings of Council, the officer in question. Such a suspension shall also apply to any committees on which the officer is represented.
12. This code of conduct shall apply to all student officers from the day they are elected.