

## Report on official motions discussed at LSE Branch

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Motion from Extraordinary General Meeting, 7 November 2023:

Motion title: LSE UCU branch (membership-led) motion “Solidarity with Palestine and Academic Freedom”

Date and type of General Meeting / Session: Extraordinary General Meeting, 7 November 2023

Status: Passed

At an Extraordinary General Meeting on 7 November 2023 LSE UCU branch members have passed the motion “Solidarity with Palestine and Academic Freedom”. The EGM was convened following a quorate and formal proposal of a motion by a sufficient number of branch members, in alignment with existing union democratic procedures. The motion was drafted by LSE UCU members, who presented it for discussion, amendment and vote at the meeting. The motion went through a process of discussion and amendments, and was eventually passed in the version above, with the following distribution of votes:

In favour: 28 votes; Abstentions: 7 votes; Against: 3 votes; the vote count totalled 38 members.

Motion text:

### ***Solidarity with Palestine and Academic Freedom***

*Following calls from Palestinian trade unions and universities, and on the basis of overwhelming evidence of mass violence against civilians and mounting Palestinian civilian death in the current Israeli military offensive against Gaza, this branch calls for:*

*1. The British government to change their position and join rising international pressure for an immediate ceasefire; to call for the immediate establishment of humanitarian corridors to aid Palestinians in Gaza; and call for UN protection for Palestinians in all of*

*Palestine. That international law and humanitarian law be immediately enforced in both Gaza and the West Bank.*

*2. The release of all those held hostage and imprisoned, Israeli and Palestinians (upwards of 10,000 people).*

*3. An end to the 16-year Israeli siege of Gaza and the illegal occupation.*

*4. An end to UK military, financial and political support for Israel, which is used to perpetuate war crimes.*

*5. Accordingly, we resolve as a branch to pressure LSE to divest funding and refuse to engage and support any research collaboration (be it by faculty, department or research centre), or research project with any company that collaborates with the Israeli military. We will endeavour to hold LSE to account on respecting its own ESG policy adopted in November 2022 to avoid investment in weapons manufacturing that contribute to the ongoing genocide.*

*6. We support the continuation of LSE's line on the sanctity of academic freedom and freedom of speech and we will continue to push for protection and support for faculty, staff and students being targeted over their solidarity for Palestine, under LSE's duty of care.*

*7. Finally, we reaffirm our branch's commitment to anti-racist politics, including our uncompromising position against all forms of racism including Islamophobia and antisemitism.*