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Should LSESU condemn anti-Semitism?

This Union notes

1. That 'anti-Semitic attacks are on the rise in Britain', with incidents such as brick attacks on synagogues and bomb threats. [1]
2. That the CST recorded 304 anti-Semitic incidents across the United Kingdom in the first six months of 2014. [2]
3. That the Metropolitan Police recorded a 52.5 per cent increase in anti-Semitic attacks between October 2013 and October 2014. [3]
4. That the Macpherson report of the Lawrence Inquiry's final report stated that "a racist incident is any incident which is perceived to be racist by the victim or the other person".
5. That the London Conference on Combatting Anti-Semitism resolved in its declaration that "education authorities should ensure that freedom of speech is upheld within the law and to protect students and staff from illegal anti-Semitic discourse and a hostile environment whatever form it takes, including calls for boycotts". (As a point of clarification, "boycotts" refers to only those boycotts of Jewish entities, products and businesses not owned in, or directly tied to, the State of Israel.)
6. That numerous anti-Semitic incidents and assaults such as spitting, tripping and snatching of religious articles have been reported to the school in recent years.

This Union believes

1. All forms of racism are abhorrent and should be opposed.
2. Anti-Semitism is specific form of racism, relating to Jews and Judaism.
3. Anti-Semitism includes but is not limited to:
4. Denying, trivializing and misconstruing the Nazi Holocaust. This includes denying the fact, scope, method, or motivation for the genocide of 6 million Jews at the hands of the National Socialist regime. It also includes the accusation that Jews or the state of Israel have fabricated, cause or over-exaggerated the Holocaust.
5. Calling for, aiding or justifying the killing or harming of Jews for the sake of their Jewish religion, ethnicity or identity.
6. Making mendacious, dehumanizing, demonizing, or stereotypical allegations about Jews as such. This includes accusations of Jewish control of the world, government, media, as well as blaming Jews for imagined and real atrocities

7. Questioning the loyalty of Jews to their nation of citizenship simply on the basis of their Jewish identity. This includes claims that Jews as a collective or a community subvert or mislead the general population, as well as the claim that Jews are more loyal to the state of Israel than their country of citizenship.
8. Claiming that Jews do not have the same rights as any other ethnic group. This includes the right to free speech, free practice of religion, free use of native languages (i.e. Hebrew, Yiddish, Ladino, etc.) and self-determination.
9. 'Equating Jews or maliciously equating Jewish Foundations of the state of Israel with the Nazi Regime. This includes, but is not limited to equating Zionism with Nazism and claiming that 'History is repeating itself' with regards to the Nazi Holocaust and the state of Israel. This also includes using Jewish symbols and religious imagery alongside Nazi symbols and imagery. This does not necessarily include analogies between historical events.'
10. Using Jewish symbols to antagonize, harass, and intimidate Jewish students.
11. Legitimate criticism of the Israeli government and its actions are not inherently anti-Semitic.

This Union resolves

1. To publicly oppose actions on campus that are anti-Semitic based on the aforementioned definition.
2. To ensure all anti-Semitic incidents aimed at or perpetrated by LSE students either verbal, physical or online are dealt with swiftly and effectively in conjunction with the school and, if appropriate or requested by the victim, the Metropolitan Police.
3. To mandate the SU Anti-Racism officer to publish a semi-annual report detailing all incidents of racism, including anti-Semitic incidents of racism that have occurred on campus during the previous six months and the actions taken by the union and the School.
4. To work with Pro-Director for Teaching and Learning and Deans to address racism and anti-Semitism on campus and methods to alleviate it.
5. To ensure that this definition is used to promote and enhance legitimate debate regarding the morality and legitimacy of international conflicts and oppose illegitimate acts of anti-Semitism on campus.

1. <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/israelgaza-conflict-rise-of-antisemitic-attacks-in-uk-as-crisis-rages-in-the-middle-east-9631174.html>

2. <http://www.thecst.org.uk/docs/Incidents%20Report%20Jan%20-%20June%202014.pdf>
3. http://www.met.police.uk/crimefigures/textonly_month.htm

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Undecided: 11

Yes: 370

No: 32