

## **University and College Union**

### **Congress 2021**

#### **Third report of the Congress business committee, 28 May 2021**

The Congress business committee's second report, which forms the agenda for this Congress meeting, is set out in UCU/1089. This third reports sets out late motions received since the publication of that report.

The committee ordered four late Congress motions (having made one composite, L3) and one late FE sector conference motion into the agenda.

One late motion was not considered to meet the criteria for late motions and is set out at the end of this report numbered B9.

The original text of the motions composited to form L3 are set out at the end of this report numbered C20-C24.

#### **Business of the equality committee**

##### ***To be taken after motion 18***

##### **L1 Condemnation of Antisemitism and Defence of Jewish Members National executive committee**

Congress condemns the appalling attack on a north London Jewish community on Sunday 16 May in which antisemitic abuse was broadcast from a megaphone. This was one example of an increase in antisemitic attacks in the UK and other European countries involving physical assaults and threats, attacks on synagogues and Holocaust memorials, the daubing of antisemitic graffiti and increases in antisemitic discourse on social media.

Congress reiterates UCU's policy of active opposition to antisemitism and its commitment to the defence of its Jewish members against discriminatory behaviour and abuse.

Congress resolves to continue to campaign actively against antisemitism and to make its stance clear in its antiracist activities, policies and public statements.

##### **L2 Condemnation of Boris Johnson National executive committee**

UCU condemns Boris Johnson's meeting with antisemitic, Islamophobic, homophobic and anti Roma Far Right leader Viktor Orban, Prime Minister of Hungary in Downing Street 28 May 2021.

## **Business of the strategy and finance committee**

### ***To be taken after motion 54:***

#### **L3 Composite: Israel/Palestine - Solidarity with the Palestinian people Croydon College, University of Brighton Grand Parade, University of Cambridge, City and Islington College Camden Road, University of Brighton Falmer, King's College London**

Congress notes:

1. Renewed Israeli barrage against Gaza, and outpouring of solidarity with the Palestinian people against Israeli aggression
2. Ethnic cleansing of Palestinians from East Jerusalem
3. Human Rights Watch finding "crimes against humanity of apartheid and persecution" by Israel;
4. Kahanists (Israeli Fascists) elected to Knesset;
5. racist attacks on Palestinians and progressive Israeli Jews by mobs, protected by police.

Congress believes this compounds

- a. illegal settlement in the West Bank and East Jerusalem;
- b. systematic discrimination against Palestinians holding Israeli citizenship;
- c. Nation State Law making Israel a state for Jews, rendering Palestinians and non-Jewish immigrants second-class;
- d. Destitution of Gaza.

This arises from the Israeli state's settler-colonial and supremacist nature, for which Britain bears special responsibility.

Congress resolves via GS to

- A. urge members to review any relationships with Israeli institutions, and consider their moral and political implications;
- B. call on the UK Government and devolved administrations to impose trade sanctions and arms embargos on Israel;
- C. circulate sanctions petition to members;
- D. urge branches to support Palestinian rights, which may include branch-organised PSC/BRICUP meetings, defending the right to legitimately criticise Israel and Zionism.

#### **L4 Re-instate full strike fund for local disputes University of Liverpool**

Congress recognises the decision made by NEC in early 2020 to reduce the daily amount of strike pay and the context that decision was made in

However, since COVID hit, many organisations including UCU, have saved money on staffing, conferencing and travel costs etc.

There are a number of branches currently in dispute and taking or are about to take strike action. This motion asks congress to agree to sanction the transfer of money saved during the pandemic into the fighting fund.

Congress resolves to:

1. Reinstate strike pay to £50 per day after the third strike day for members earning over £30,000 and to £75 per day after the second strike day for members earning under that threshold.
2. Recognise and adhere to maximum payment caps already set.
3. Call to members to increase efforts to raise donations to the strike fund

## **Late motion – FE sector conference**

### ***To be taken after motion FE5***

#### **L5 FE pay Croydon College**

Conference notes:

1. Consultative ballot on pay: 81% vote for action
2. UCU FE's national pay + strategy.

Believes that:

- a. Pay will continue to be a central issue in FE.
- b. Whilst we have had some success with the national + campaign we need to rethink how we campaign over pay and conditions.
- c. If we are to be able to beat the union thresholds, we need a clear focus on the issues that we are asking members to vote on.
- d. There is no competition between pay or workload. We can have a national campaign on both - simultaneously.

Resolves the FEC:

- i. Organise a campaign on pay and workload leading to a national IA ballot.
- ii. In the event of a national ballot taking place there can be no opting out by branches of a national ballot.

## **Late motion not ordered into the agenda**

### ***Not considered to meet the late motion criteria (urgent, timely and requiring a decision of Congress)***

#### **B9 Burnley College constraints on UCU activities Burnley College**

Congress notes with extreme concern that following the death of UCU member Donna Coleman in January 2021 and the publication of an article in The Guardian, matters have deteriorated further. The college:

1. continues in its failure to cooperate with UCU at branch level to keep members safe on site.
2. refuses to respect Burnley branch as part of the national UCU organisation.
3. refuses to engage with the Branch's regional office inclusive of escalating matters and blocking email access

We call on congress to initiate a campaign to show that Burnley branch are not alone and to include:

- a. encouraging messages of support to the local branch,
- b. supporting opposition to the College principal and chair of governors' position,
- c. utilising relevant legal and campaign resources as appropriate.

## **Original text of composite motions**

### **Late motion L3**

#### **C20 Israel/Palestine Croydon College, University of Brighton, Grand Parade**

Congress notes:

1. Renewed Israeli barrage against Gaza
2. Ethnic cleansing of Palestinians from East Jerusalem
3. Human Rights Watch finding "crimes against humanity of apartheid and persecution" by Israel;
4. racist attacks on Palestinians by mobs, protected by police.

Congress believes this compounds

- a. illegal settlement in the West Bank;
- b. systematic discrimination against Arab Israeli citizens;
- c. Nation State Law making Israel a state for Jews, rendering Palestinians and non-Jewish immigrants second-class;  
and arises from
  - i. Israel's settler-colonial nature, and its consequent ethnic suprematism, for which Britain bears special responsibility.

Congress resolves via GS to

- A. urge members to review any relationships with Israeli institutions, and consider their moral and political implications;
- B. call on the UK Government and devolved administrations to impose trade sanctions and arms embargos on Israel as an Apartheid state;
- C. circulate sanctions petition to members;
- D. urge branch-organised PSC/BRICUP meetings, defending the right to criticise Zionism against antisemitism smears.

**C21 Solidarity with Palestinians against Israeli apartheid and military attacks      University of Cambridge**

As motion L1 above, except:

Point b reads:

**b** systematic discrimination against **Palestinians holding Israeli citizenship**

and point 1 reads

- i. Israel's settler-colonial **and supremacist nature** for which Britain bears special responsibility.

**C22 Solidarity with the Palestinian people      City and Islington College  
Camden Road**

As motion L1, except

Point 1 reads:

- 1. The global out pouring of solidarity with the Palestinian people against Israeli aggression.

Point 4 is not included.

**C23 Israel/Palestine University of Brighton, Falmer**

As motion L1 above, except that:

Point i reads:

- i. Israeli **state's** settler-colonial nature, and its ethnic supremacism, for which Britain bears special responsibility.

Point B reads:

- B. call on the UK Government and devolved administrations to impose trade sanctions and arms embargos on Israel;

Point D reads:

- D. urge branches to support Palestinian rights and defend criticism of Israel from smears of antisemitism while remaining vigilant for actual antisemitic claims.

**C24 King's College London**

**Similar to L1, difference highlighted in bold:**

Congress notes:

- 1. Renewed Israeli **offensive** against Gaza;
- 2. Ethnic cleansing of Palestinians from East Jerusalem;

3. Human Rights Watch finding “crimes against humanity of Apartheid and persecution” by Israel;

**4. Kahanists (Israeli fascists) elected to the Knesset;**

5. Racist attacks on Palestinians **and progressive Israeli Jews** by **Zionist** mobs protected by police.

Congress believes this:

compounds ...

a. Illegal settlement in the West Bank **and East Jerusalem;**

**b. Systematic discrimination against Arab Palestinians holding Israeli citizenship;**

**c. Destitution of Gaza.**

and arises from

i. Israel’s settler-colonial **and supremacist nature**, for which Britain bears special responsibility.

Congress resolves via GS to

A. Urge members to review any relationships with Israeli institutions, and consider their moral and political implications;

B. Call on the UK Government and devolved administrations to impose trade sanctions and arms embargoes on Israel as an Apartheid state;

C. Circulate sanction petitions to members;

D. Urge branch-organised PSC/BRICUP meetings, defending the right to legitimately **criticise Israel and Zionism.**