

## **M1718-12 Students and Brexit – For our Future’s Sake (FFS).**

### **HUU Notes:**

- That on the 23rd June 2016, the referendum on EU Membership was won by the Leave Campaign
- Young people and students overwhelmingly voted Remain, by most estimates at around 75%
- Article 50 was triggered in March 2017. This means we will formally leave the European Union on current timelines in March 2019.
- Leaving the EU creates uncertainty around the position of UK students studying in EU countries and vice versa and also threatens access to European research funding and could damage long standing academic collaborations.
- As it stands, in leaving the EU, the UK risks losing access to the Erasmus<sup>+</sup> exchange scheme for students and apprentices.
- It is likely that, after leaving, EU students in the UK will be regarded as international students and as such, without a deal or a special arrangement, will be charged international student fees.
- Whilst current arrangements for students stand until 2017/18 and students who have been accepted under the current arrangements will have their contracts honoured for 2017/18 there is no certainty for students beyond these dates.

### **HUU Believes:**

- Lots of people across the UK had legitimate grievances about their lives and voted to leave the European Union because of them. It would therefore be foolish to in any way invalidate that vote.
- That since the referendum result, a number of promises which were made by the official Leave Campaign (members of which are now very senior members of Government), have turned out to be unfeasible or untrue.
- That in a democracy, people have the opportunity to change their minds.

- That students and young people have a right, and a duty to stand up and say when they believe something is going to negatively impact their futures.
- The UK will prove in the future to be a less attractive partner for future research and collaborations if any new immigration policy restricts and deters high quality academics from across Europe from moving to the UK
- Student mobility around Europe is integral to transformational experiences for students studying in Europe, for EU students and for UK students studying alongside EU students. This would therefore have an impact in the experience at Hull.
- Since the referendum, the hard line taken by many senior politicians on immigration has seen increases in xenophobic and hate crime incidences nationally, with an increase of 42% just before and after the referendum. Hate crime in Hull doubled in the week after the June referendum according to Humberside Police. EU and international students should not be made to suffer because of the increasingly harmful and dangerous rhetoric around Brexit.

#### **HUU Resolves:**

- To give students here at Hull who are passionate about this cause information about For our Future's Sake (FFS) so it will be student-led, they can decide for themselves their level of commitment whilst also having a support network from other FFS groups across the country to help their efforts.
- For this group of students to lobby stakeholders in the UK, including MPs, to call for a referendum on the terms of the Brexit deal. And to also support national demonstrations on remaining in the European Union, to influence the meaningful vote in Parliament in Autumn 2018.
- To work with other students unions in campaigning locally and nationally to protect student mobility after Brexit.
- To lobby stakeholders in the UK, including MPs, to campaign for the UK to remain a full member of the Erasmus+ scheme and to secure a commitment from MPs that the UK will be a member of any similar schemes in the future.
- To lobby stakeholders in the UK, including MPs, to remove international students from net migration targets.

**Proposer:** Osaro Otobo (President)

**Seconders(s):** Nick Wright (Sports Officer-elect), Tom McNamara (Activities Officer-elect), Andy Costigan (Welfare & Community Officer-elect)