

Motion on Free Speech and University Censorship

Proposer: Danny Goodwin, Student

Seconder: George Tricks, Student

This Union notes:

1. Lancaster University has a history of implementing policies that have an impact on free speech and expression in the form of the protest and poster codes;
2. That the Confucius Institute filed a complaint with the University about the posters about the Tiananmen Square incident;

This Union believes:

3. Freedom of expression is the bedrock of a functioning democratic society, and it is the right of individuals to hold the powerful to account for their actions;
4. That our members should be free to organise protests, vigils, demonstrations, protests and other meetings in support of causes that they deem to be important;
5. That our members should be free to distribute materials in support of causes that they deem to be important;

This Union resolves:

6. To condemn the actions of the University on the 31<sup>st</sup> of May to remove posters that it deemed as controversial on the flimsy pretence that it violated section 4.1.2 of the poster code;
7. To amend the poster code further to ensure that it is not liable to abuse from University managers;
8. To oppose the continued existence of the Protest Code, and to support amendment that directly undermines it.