



Student Council Meeting
30.10.14

Condemn the reprehensible sexist, racist, and Islamophobic attacks and threats on NUS Black Students officer Malia Bouattia and offer her our support

Background:

1. Malia Bouattia, the current NUS black students officer, has been the subject of racist, sexist and islamophobic abuse including death and rape threats towards her and her family.
2. This occurred following irresponsible, sensationalist and false reports of the events of the NUS National Executive Council meeting held on Tuesday 16th September 2014 in which the motion was defeated by a majority democratic vote. This was under the clear exhortation and declaration that a new motion would be written with the help of Kurdish students to be voted on for the next meeting of the NEC.
3. Bouattia spoke out on her concerns about the motion due to problematic language and rhetoric, specifically to do with resolve 5 of the motion. Resolve 5: which sought to : "encourage students to boycott anyone found to be funding the IS or supplying them with goods, training, travel or soldiers" This provides vague and problematic language in the terms used to 'condemn ISIS' such that it is an umbrella term with no direct course of action, further submitting Muslim students to stigma and islamophobic attack. As elected BSO it is both her right and responsibility to voice the concerns of black students on such issues.

Purpose:

1. Condemn these acts of racist, sexist and islamophobic abuse and threats.
2. Preserve the integrity and autonomy of the student movement.
3. Stand in solidarity with the NUS black students officer as an elect representative of the student body.



Action:

1. Issue a formal statement of condemnation and support. Whether or not you agree politically with the decision it is the NUS BSO and NEC's right to voice their concerns and democratically vote on motions as they are elected representatives of the student body.
2. Provide an example for zero tolerance of this kind of abuse and a safe space for student elect representatives.

Proposed by: Noha Abu El Magd

Seconded by: Hafsa Ameen