



Student Council 27/10/16

Motion Name: Islamophobia Awareness Month

Background:

November is Islamophobia Awareness Month which is important for deconstructing and challenging some of the stereotypes about Islam and Muslims. It should create spaces in which we can discuss and practically address Islamophobia. The month-long campaign will see activities and projects throughout the UK and Europe. Islamophobia or anti-Muslim hatred and attacks is reaching worrying heights in Britain and across Europe. The figures from the Metropolitan Police on anti-Muslim racist hate crime have consistently risen since they begun recording - and those are only figures within London. The majority of victims of violent and verbal Islamophobic attacks tend to be women.

Purpose:

The Muslim communities, specifically Muslim women, are the most economically disadvantaged in Britain. Therefore Bristol SU must take a firm stance against all Islamophobic incidents and conduct internal investigations if and when they occur. Muslim students face multiple forms of islamophobia, both explicit and institutionalised forms and it is our duty as a students' union to tackle all forms of islamophobia and ensure the safety of Muslim students on campus, progression of endeavours to raise awareness on islamophobia on campus and in wider society as well as the agency and ability of Muslim students to engage in the public and political sphere.

Action:

1. We want Bristol SU to join the national Islamophobia Awareness Month (#IAM) campaign every year per policy permission.
2. Bristol SU to issue a statement of solidarity and to raise awareness about the event.

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3. Bristol SU to organise an islamophobia awareness campaign and support the organisation of student and society-led events and activity surrounding #IAM.

Proposed by:

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