



# INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS RIGHTS LOCAL CAMPAIGN GUIDE

**WELCOME TO THE YOUNG GREENS PEOPLE NOT NUMBERS CAMPAIGN PACK IN SOLIDARITY WITH ALL INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS. IN THIS FIRST PEOPLE NOT NUMBERS PACK, WE WILL INFORM YOU ON HOW TO LOBBY YOUR UNIVERSITY FOR THE RIGHTS ALL STUDENTS AND STAFF IN UK UNIVERSITIES. THE HOSTILE ENVIRONMENT POLICY IS CURRENTLY BEING PRACTISED IN CAMPUSES ACROSS THE UK, AND BREXIT WILL SOON BE IMPACTING STUDENTS AND STAFF ALIKE. AS YOUNG GREENS WE PROMOTE AN INTERNATIONALIST VISION, ONE IN WHICH TRULY ACCESSIBLE EDUCATION PLAYS A KEY ROLE.**

**WHILST YOUR CAMPAIGNING AT YOUR UNIVERSITY, REMEMBER NOT TO ALWAYS START AT THE TOP; IF UNIVERSITY MANAGEMENT IS GETTING BACK TO YOU, WHY NOT GET THE SUPPORT OF YOUR LECTURERS AND OF COURSE YOUR FELLOW STUDENTS TO BUILD YOUR CAMPAIGN?**



## WHAT ARE OUR THREE KEY DEMANDS?

### 1. LOBBY YOUR UNIVERSITY TO INTRODUCE REFUGEE SCHOLARSHIPS

WHEN REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS ARRIVE IN THE UK, THEIR JOURNEY TO THE UK OFTEN RESULTS IN THEM LOSING A LARGE AMOUNT - IF NOT MOST - OF MONEY THEY MAY HAVE HAD. THEREFORE THE EXTORTIONATELY EXPENSIVE UK HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM IS LIKELY TO BE HIGHLY INACCESSIBLE TO MANY MIGRANTS. WHILE SOME MIGRANTS ARRIVE IN THE UK WITH DEGREES, MANY HAVE TO RETRAIN ONCE THEY ARRIVE IN THE UK BECAUSE THEIR PRE-EXISTING FOREIGN QUALIFICATIONS MAY NOT BE ACCEPTED. TO MAKE MATTERS WORSE, THE HOME OFFICE HAS ATTEMPTED TO INTRODUCE AN EDUCATION BAN FOR ASYLUM SEEKERS WHICH WE AS YOUNG GREENS STAND FIRMLY AGAINST. WE KNOW THAT EDUCATING MIGRANTS CREATES A HEALTHY AND SKILLED SOCIETY WHICH CAN CONTRIBUTE TO A HAPPIER SOCIETY AND HEALTHIER ECONOMY IN TURN.





## **2. LOBBY YOUR UNIVERSITY TO PLEDGE TO PROTECT EU STUDENTS TUITION FEES POST BREXIT**

**AFTER MARCH 2019, THIS ACADEMIC YEAR IT IS EXPECTED THAT BRITAIN WILL HAVE LEFT THE EU. THE UK'S DECISION TO LEAVE THE EU IN JUNE 2016 HAS THROWN THE HIGHER EDUCATION SECTOR INTO CHAOS, WITH FUNDING CUTS SET TO HIT UNIVERSITIES HARD. BUT THE CRISIS GOES MUCH DEEPER THAN JUST UNIVERSITY BODIES – IT THREATENS TO HIT STUDENTS TOO. EU STUDENTS WILL NO LONGER RECEIVE PREFERENTIAL FEES DICTATED BY THEIR EU STATUS AND SHOULD UNIVERSITIES CHOOSE TO HIKE PRICES UP TO MATCH THE EXTORTIONATE LEVELS PAID BY CURRENT INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS, WE CAN EXPECT A SHARP DECLINE IN THE NUMBER OF EU STUDENTS COMING HERE TO STUDY.**

**AS YOUNG GREENS, WE BELIEVE THAT WE MUST RESIST THE CREEPING ISOLATIONISM INFILTRATING THE UK POST-BREXIT. THAT'S WHY WE ARE CALLING ON UNIVERSITIES TO GUARANTEE THAT THEY WILL NOT RISE FEES FOR EU STUDENTS IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE UK'S WITHDRAWAL FROM THE EU. AS YOUNG GREENS, WE BELIEVE THAT EDUCATION SHOULD BE FREE FOR ALL AND THIS COMMITMENT FROM THE HIGHER EDUCATION SECTOR, THOUGH NOT A COMPLETE ANSWER TO THE WOES FACING UK HIGHER EDUCATION, WOULD DEMONSTRATE INTENT FROM THOSE AT THE TOP OF OUR UNIVERSITIES TO TURN BACK THE CLOCK ON REGRESSIVE POLICY. COMMITTING TO NOT RISING FEES FOR EU STUDENTS POST-BREXIT WOULD SET A PRECEDENT FOR FURTHER MOVES TO OPEN UNIVERSITY UP FOR STUDENTS FROM ALL BACKGROUNDS AND PARTS OF THE WORLD**



### **3. LOBBY YOUR UNIVERSITY TO REMOVE INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS FROM NET MIGRATION STATISTICS**

**INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS COME FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD. FROM ASIA TO AMERICA THE UK IS ENRICHED WITH STUDENTS FROM ALL CORNERS OF THE EARTH. HOWEVER FOR MANY INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS FROM OUTSIDE OF THE EU THE UK IS NOT AS RECEPTIVE OF THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS. MANY OTHER INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS HAVE HAD SIMILAR EXPERIENCES, HENCE WHY THE YOUNG GREENS ARE CALLING FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS TO BE REMOVED FROM THE NET MIGRATION STATISTICS. INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS SHOULD NOT BE SUBJECT TO THE SAME STANDARDS AS OTHER FORMS OF MIGRATION. THIS HAS LED TO UNNECESSARY DEPORTATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS FACING DIFFICULTIES WITHIN THE UK. MORE WIDELY WE STAND AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT'S EXCESSIVE FOCUS ON NET MIGRATION STATISTICS REDUCES MIGRANTS TO NUMBERS AS OPPOSED TO PEOPLE.**





## **WHAT CAN YOUR YOUNG GREEN GROUP DO TO MEET THESE DEMANDS?**

**NOW THAT YOU UNDERSTAND WHY WE SUPPORT THESE THREE DEMANDS, WE'LL SPELL OUT HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED WITH SUPPORTING THESE CAUSES.**

### **REFUGEE SCHOLARSHIPS- WHAT CAN I DO?**

**UNIVERSITIES SUCH AS SOAS HAVE ALREADY INTRODUCED 'SANCTUARY SCHOLARSHIPS' WHICH CAN BE REGARDED AS BEST PRACTICE, PARTICULARLY FOR UNIVERSITIES WHO PRIDE THEMSELVES ON HAVING AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT COMMUNITY. USE THIS EXAMPLE WHEN LOBBYING YOUR UNIVERSITY, AND PUBLICISE ALL WRITTEN COMMUNICATION WITH THE UNIVERSITY DURING THIS PROCESS TO ENSURE THEY ARE ACCOUNTABLE TO THE STUDENT POPULATION.**

**START A PETITION AT YOUR LOCAL UNIVERSITY USING [CHANGE.ORG](https://change.org) TO SHOW YOUR VICE CHANCELLOR THE SUPPORT YOU'VE MANAGED TO GATHER ON CAMPUS AND ELSEWHERE. MAKE SURE YOU PUBLISH AN ARTICLE ON YOUR CAMPAIGN IN YOUR STUDENT NEWSPAPER AND INFORM YOUR STUDENT RADIO STATION.**

**HOST A PANEL DISCUSSION, A DIRECT ACTION OR OTHER EVENTS TO RAISE AWARENESS.**

**WHY NOT CHALLENGE THE HOME OFFICE'S EDUCATION BAN FOR ASYLUM SEEKERS BY LOBBYING YOUR UNIVERSITY TO RELEASE A PUBLIC STATEMENT CONDONING THIS.**

**APPEAL TO CENTRAL GOVERNMENT BY WRITING TO YOUR MP, OR START A GOVERNMENT PETITION CALLING FOR THE END OF THE EDUCATION BAN OF ASYLUM SEEKERS.**

**FINALLY YOU CAN PROPOSE A MOTION TO YOUR COUNCIL. YOUNG GREEN COUNCILLOR REBECCA JOY NOVELL WROTE AND PASSED A MOTION MAKING LANCASTER AND MORECAMBE A CITY OF SANCTUARY FOR ASYLUM SEEKERS AND REFUGEES, SO YOU MAY BE ABLE TO GARNER YOUR COUNCIL'S SUPPORT HERE!**



## **BREXIT TUITION FEES- WHAT CAN I DO?**

**HAVE YOU HAD A READ OF OUR PEOPLE NOT NUMBERS CAMPAIGN LITERATURE ON INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS? WE'VE GOT SOME GREAT CASE STUDIES IN THERE WHICH YOU ARE WELCOME TO USE WHEN LOBBYING YOUR UNIVERSITY, OR YOUR COUNCIL/ MP!**

**APPEAL TO YOUR VICE CHANCELLOR, CALLING FOR EU STUDENTS TUITION FEES TO BE FROZEN BEFORE BREXIT. MAKE SURE THIS APPEAL IS IN YOUR STUDENT NEWSPAPER.**

**HOST A PANEL DISCUSSION, A DIRECT ACTION OR OTHER EVENTS TO RAISE AWARENESS.**

**REACH OUT TO STUDENTS FROM THE EU IN YOUR UNIVERSITY AND SEE IF THEY'D BE COMFORTABLE CAMPAIGNING ALONGSIDE YOU, AND WHETHER THEY'D BE COMFORTABLE GIVING YOU QUOTES OR CAUSE STUDIES YOU COULD USE FOR CAMPAIGN MATERIALS, INTERVIEWS OR SPEECHES AT RALLIES.**

**APPEAL TO CENTRAL GOVERNMENT BY WRITING TO YOUR MP, OR START A GOVERNMENT PETITION CALLING FOR THE PROTECTION OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AFTER BREXIT.**





## **INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AND NET MIGRATION STATISTICS- WHAT CAN I DO?**

**SIGN OUR YOUNG GREENS PETITION TO REMOVE INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS FROM NET  
MIGRATION**

**WE'VE ALSO GOT SOME BRILLIANT CASE STUDIES IN OUR PNN CAMPAIGN LITERATURE ON  
OUR WEBSITE FOR YOU TO USE- MAKE SURE YOU HAVE A LOOK!**

**START A PETITION AT YOUR LOCAL UNIVERSITY USING CHANGE.ORG TO SHOW YOUR VICE  
CHANCELLOR THE SUPPORT YOU'VE MANAGED TO GARNER ON CAMPUS AND ELSEWHERE.**

**PROPOSE A MOTION TO YOUR COUNCIL**

**START A PETITION AT YOUR LOCAL UNIVERSITY USING CHANGE.ORG TO SHOW YOUR VICE  
CHANCELLOR THE SUPPORT YOU'VE MANAGED TO GARNER ON CAMPUS AND ELSEWHERE.**

**MAKE SURE THIS APPEAL IS IN YOUR STUDENT NEWSPAPER.**

**HOST A PANEL DISCUSSION, A DIRECT ACTION OR OTHER EVENTS TO RAISE AWARENESS.**

**APPEAL TO CENTRAL GOVERNMENT BY WRITING TO YOUR MP, OR START A GOVERNMENT  
PETITION CALLING FOR THE END OF THE EDUCATION BAN OF ASYLUM SEEKERS.**

**LOBBY TO STOP INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS HAVING TO CONSTANTLY "CHECK IN" WITH  
THE UNIVERSITY. INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ARE OFTEN OBLIGED TO 'CHECK IN' AS A  
MEANS OF DOCUMENTING THEIR WHEREABOUTS AND IMMIGRATION STATUS. MAKE SURE  
YOU STAND IN SOLIDARITY WITH THEM AGAINST THIS MECHANISM OF CONTROL WHICH  
CAN BE SEEN AS A SYMPTOM OF THE HOSTILE ENVIRONMENT.**

**UNI'S AGAINST BORDER CONTROLS HAVE CREATED THIS SURVEY TO INVESTIGATE HOW  
THE HOSTILE ENVIRONMENT IS BEING IMPLEMENTED ACROSS HIGHER EDUCATION  
INSTITUTIONS IN THE UK. PLEASE SHARE THIS WITH ALL TIERS 2 AND 5 UNIVERSITY  
STAFF AND TIER 4 STUDENTS IN ORDER TO GIVE THE ACTIVIST COMMUNITY A BETTER  
IDEA OF HOW TO CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE HOSTILE ENVIRONMENT IN UK UNIVERSITIES.**



**PLEASE CHECK MIGRANTS' RIGHTS NETWORK'S CALENDAR  
FOR KEY EVENT DATES FOR TRAINING, PROTESTS AND  
TALKS ON MIGRATION.**

**WE HOPE THAT THE ABOVE ADVICE GIVES YOU A CLEARER  
IDEA OF HOW TO TAKE ACTION ON OUR PEOPLE NOT  
NUMBERS CAMPAIGN AIMS. IF YOU HAVE ANY FURTHER  
QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT  
ADMIN@YOUNGGREENS.ORG.UK.**



**Young Greens**

The youth branch of **The Green Party**