

London School of Economics Students' Union



Labour



Constitution

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Article I - Aims & Objectives

1. All aims, objectives and following rules are subject to LSESU Labour Society being bound by the Activities Bye-laws of the LSE Student's Union.
2. To promote the values and policies of the Labour Party.
3. To involve and promote the views of society members nationally through official Labour Youth divisions.
4. To aid the elections of Labour Party candidates across the country at all levels.
5. To host tolerant and inclusive events with a wide range of topics and formats to satisfy section 2, 3 & 4.

Article II – Members

1. Membership is open to all students of the LSE
2. Associate membership may be offered to non-Union members.
3. Associate membership can only be offered after being approved by the Activities Committee of the Union.
4. Associate members of the society may not stand or vote in society elections.

Article III - Executive Committee

1. The Society shall have an Executive committee who shall have additional powers granted by the Constitution and Students Union.
 - a) They must partake in any form of training as specified by the Chair(s). This must include Anti-Semitism and consent training.

The society shall have a:

2. Chair, or Co-Chairs, who shall;
 - a) Lead the committee.
 - b) Chair all society meetings.
 - c) Oversee and be responsible for all members during the course of society activities and actions taken by the committee as a whole.
 - d) Liaise with official Labour Youth and Student wings
 - e) Have access to all social media accounts.

- f) Be ultimately responsible for the society during their time as Chair(s), subject to the constraints and requirements set out in the constitution. All committee members are obliged to help the Chair(s) meet these goals.
 - g) Be the only person allowed to be registered as Society President(s) with the Students' Union (hereafter SU).
3. Secretary, who shall;
- a) Convene all society meetings.
 - b) Take minutes of all meetings/AGMs.
 - c) Circulate minutes or digested minutes with society members after each meeting.
 - d) Be responsible for booking rooms for events.
 - e) Be responsible for circulating a regular email on society events and changes.
 - f) Lead the society's communications and have access to all social media accounts
 - g) Be the only person allowed to be registered as Secretary with the SU.
4. Treasurer, who shall;
- a) Administer and keep a record of all finances of the society
 - b) Authorise all society spending
 - c) Have access to all social media accounts
 - d) Aim to widen access amongst members who may not be able to attend events or fully participate due to finances
 - e) Be the only person allowed to be registered as Treasurer with the SU.

Article IV – Sub-Committee

- 1) The committee will be made up of the Executive committee and a Sub-Committee (together known as the Committee) comprised of four Liberation Officers and an Environment Officer.
 - a) They must partake in any form of training as specified by the Chair(s). This must include Anti-Semitism and consent training.

The Society shall have:

- 2) Liberation Officers

- a) Women's* Officer, who shall;
 - i. Be a self-defining woman or non-binary member.
 - ii. Encourage women and non-binary people to join and become active within the society and the Labour Party.
 - iii. Encourage and support all self-defining female and non-binary society members at LSE.
 - iv. Organise and host at least one event per year.
 - b) BAME Officer, who shall;
 - i. Be a self-defining Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic person.
 - ii. Encourage BAME people to join and become active within the society and the Labour Party.
 - iii. Encourage and support all self-defining BAME society members at LSE.
 - iv. Organise and host at least one event per year.
 - c) LGBT+ Officer, who shall;
 - i. Be a self-defining member of the LGBT+ community.
 - ii. Encourage LGBT+ people to join and become active within the society and the Labour Party.
 - iii. Encourage and support all self-defining LGBT+ society members at LSE.
 - iv. Organise and host at least one event per year.
 - d) Disability Officer, who shall;
 - i. Self-define as disabled.
 - ii. Encourage disabled people to join and become active within the society and the Labour Party.
 - iii. Encourage and support all self-defining disabled society members at LSE.
 - iv. Organise and host at least one event per year.
- 3) Environment Officer, who shall;
- a) Raise awareness of and campaign on issues surrounding the climate emergency
 - b) Organise and host at least one event per year.

4) Committee meetings

- a) The entire committee shall meet regularly at the discretion of the Chair(s).
- b) All committee meetings are required to be open for all members to attend and must be advertised to members before the start of the meeting.
- c) The executive committee may also meet outside of regular committee meetings, but are not required to do so.
- d) All minutes made by the Secretary must be made available to the members within a week.
- e) If a vote is undertaken in a committee meeting, efforts must be made to allow committee members not in attendance to vote. Any vote called by the Chair(s) in a committee meeting is advisory

Article V – Elections

1) Calling Elections

- a) The elections of the Executive committee and the Sub-Committee will take place in March (Lent Term).
- b) The exact date of the election is at the discretion of the Chair(s).
- c) Members must be given a minimum of 5 working days notice of any Election called by both Email and through at least one form of Social Media.

2) Elections are to be run using the Student's Union Online Election procedure.

3) Eligibility of Candidates and voters

- a) Candidates for the election are only eligible if they have been members of the Society for at least 24 hours before voting opens.
- b) Members of any LSE SU Society associated with a national political party other than the Labour party will not be eligible candidates.
- c) Voters must be members of the society at least 24 hours before voting opens.
- d) Elections for all Liberation positions may only be voted in by self-defining members of the same caucus

- e) Quoracy (10% of the Society's membership) must vote for an election to be valid. If this is not met the election should be postponed and rearranged in consultation with the Activities and Development Officer.
 - f) No committee member is allowed to hold two roles at a time, and is obliged to resign their previous role if elected to second role in an election.
- 4) Elections for every position require a 'Re-Open Nominations' (RON) option.
 - 5) Disputes surrounding the integrity of the election should be directed to the Activities and Development Officer.

Article VI – Annual General Meeting (AGM)

- 1) An AGM will take place after voting has opened and before voting has closed in the Lent term election.
- 2) The chair will run the AGM
 - i) If the chair is standing for a position, they must defer the running of the meeting to an alternative committee member for that section, who is not running for that position.
- 3) All candidates standing in the Lent term election will make a statement of no longer than two minutes and answer questions from members.
 - i) Should a candidate not be able to attend the AGM they may submit a statement to be read by the Chair on their behalf
 - ii) During Liberation Officer elections, only those who are self-defining members of the caucus may witness the statement and ask questions.
 - (1) Should a Liberation candidate not be able to attend the AGM, they may nominate another society member belonging to their caucus to read a statement on their behalf
- 4) Members will be given an opportunity by the Chair(s) to raise suggestions and recommendations for future society activities.

Article VII- Referendums

- 1) Referendums may be used for:

- a) Constitutional amendments
- b) If the Chair(s) wishes to poll the views of members (i.e. to decide on a campaign to focus on)
- 2) Referendums can be called at any time
- 3) Votes will be cast under a secret ballot and do not have to be counted under the AV system
- 4) The Chair(s) decides on the format of the referendum.
- 5) Quoracy is 10% of the Society's membership. If this is not met then the result will not be binding.
- 6) Amendments to the Constitution:
 - a) Amendments to Constitution must be proposed to the Chair(s) in writing.
 - b) The exact wording of the proposal shall then be submitted to the committee for approval. The committee may alter the wording of the amendment in conjunction with the proposer.
 - c) If approval is met, the amendment is to be voted on by members at the AGM or through a referendum (10% Quoracy still applies).
 - d) Amendments are passed if they receive a majority of votes by all present members and new constitutions must be passed by a two thirds majority of all present members
 - e) A new Constitution or Constitutional Amendment must then be submitted to the Activities Committee for approval.

Article VIII - Resignations & Motions of No Confidence

- 1) Resignations
 - a) Committee members may resign at any time.
 - b) Resignations must be submitted in writing to the Chair(s)
 - c) If the position unfilled is of the Chair(s), Secretary or Treasurer, a by-election must be scheduled to fill the position.
 - d) Otherwise, the Executive Committee may decide to leave the role unfilled until the next election.
 - e) The Executive Committee may agree to fill the position through a by-election using the Student's Union Online Election procedure, or through a whole committee vote
 - i) If position is put to a whole committee vote, applicants must be given at least five days notice to submit written statements to the committee, after which a secret ballot will be held amongst committee members to fill the position.

- 2) Any member of the society has the right to call a vote of no confidence and may do so in writing. The motion must be seconded by another member.
 - a) If there is an accusation that a committee member has contravened the Constitution, the exact Article and Section should be cited in their statement.
- 3) Procedure for a Motion of No Confidence
 - a) The motion must then be submitted to the Chair(s) (or Secretary if the motion regards the Chair(s)).
 - b) The full membership and the Activities & Development Officer must be informed of a Motion of No-Confidence 48 hours before the meeting at which it is voted on.
 - c) Motions of No-Confidence must be voted on by committee members within 5 days of submission. The Proposer has 4 days wherein they may withdraw the motion.
 - d) For a Motion of No-Confidence to be carried it must receive the votes from two thirds of the present committee.

Article IX – Student’s Union Elections Endorsements

- 1) Endorsements for any election are to be made by the committee alone unless the Chair(s) wishes to call a referendum.
- 2) Endorsements made by the Chair(s) without consultation of the committee are prohibited.
- 3) Endorsement Meetings
 - a) Are open for all members to witness.
 - b) All candidates must be invited to an Endorsement meeting. Failure to invite all candidates will result in the meeting being void.