

Motion to oppose the Government's introduction of higher Visa charges for Non-EU International Student's

This Union Notes:

1. Non-EU International Students make up over 22% of this institution's student population; which require a Visa to legally enter and reside in this nation.
2. Annually the government gains over £5 billion which comes from Non-EU International Students.
3. Few years ago without consultation the government introduced Visa charges for student's. Nowadays the government has increased the Visa charges from £190 to £250/£500 per application.
4. The government's consultation prior the official increase of visa charges showed that Student Union representatives, University representatives and Members of Parliament strongly opposed the increase of Visa charges.
5. Non-EU International Students cannot legally work over 21 hours per week (during term or holiday time) as stated by the Home Office. Victor Ruttoh (a member of this institution) was unfairly treated and removed from this country because he accidentally worked an extra 2 hours (more than authorized by the Home Office) during the summer holidays.

This Union Believes:

1. Non-EU International Students should **not** have to pay for a Visa or should be given a highly reduced rate.
2. The government did not take into consideration the results of its most recent consultation.
3. The governments Immigration system, control and Visa processing is faulty in need upgrading and new fair and feasible policies.
4. An increase in the Visa charges will create more financial difficulties for current and new Non-EU International Students.
5. The number of Non-EU International Students of this institution could decrease.
6. The introduction of higher visa charges which will affect Non-EU International Students is unfair and unnecessary.

This Union Resolves:

1. That it is strongly against the introduction of higher visa charges.
2. That the International Student's Officer with other representatives and students will continue to protest against the introduction of higher Visa charges.

Proposed by: Union Executive