

Supporting Iranian Students.

Proposed by the Representation and Welfare Board

Imperial College Union Notes:

1. There are 49 members of the Iranian Society at Imperial College Union,
2. Financial supporters of research at Imperial College have stakes and investments in Iran.
3. There are indications that a military attack or sanctions against Iran have been planned.
4. Military attacks will not only be against military establishments but also other economic and civilian infrastructures.
5. The US National Intelligence Estimate, (NIE), has reported that Iran halted its nuclear programme in 2003 and has not activated it since.
6. The International Atomic Energy Agency has found no evidence of a weaponisation programme in Iran and the US Intelligence Agency, the NIE, has estimated that Iran would be at least 10 years away from obtaining a nuclear weapon should it decide to follow this path. However, the US, supported by the UK and France, are persisting that Iran cease Uranium enrichment together with the know-how, or face more sanctions, with the military option kept ominously open.
7. The following universities have passed a motion opposing an attack on Iran: Sussex, SOAS, Cranfield, Leeds, Essex, Middlesex and UWE. Other motions have also been passed across other countries, United States of America, in particular.

Imperial College Union Believes:

8. Access to learning, freedom of academia both in terms of knowledge, people and the ability of students to attend university within and outside Iran is a right that should be protected.
9. People who are an asset to Imperial College London both financially and academically, could face a cease of funds, and thus be faced to withdraw from their studies.
10. Funding income from companies and individuals that have investments in Iran could suffer from cuts that are a direct result of military action against Iran
11. Sanctions, destabilisation programmes and any military intervention or its threat could be greatly harmful to the cause of human rights, democratic rights and the civil society organisation in Iran.
12. Imperial College Union can support freedom of academia and rights for our Iranian students without taking a political stance on the War in Iran.

Imperial College Union Resolves:

13. To publicly oppose any actions against Iran which will be detrimental to Iranian Students at Imperial and financial investors of Imperial.
14. Prevent any discrimination against current and new Iranian students, admitting any students from Iran or Iranian students who meet the usual admission criteria.
15. To raise awareness amongst students about the issues surrounding action against Iran.
16. To contact other Student Unions to inform them about our policy and how to support Iranian students and academics without taking a political stance on issues in Iran.