

## D.U. Amnesty International

1. 'D.U. Amnesty International' shall be the name of this society and this group shall further the aims and abide by the status of Amnesty International.

2. D.U. Amnesty International, hereafter, referred to as 'this society', shall exist

(a) to further Amnesty International's vision of a world in which every person enjoys all of the human rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights standards.

(b) to partake in a mutually beneficial role of support and assistance with the national, parent group of Amnesty Ireland.

(c) to promote human rights awareness amongst our peers in Trinity College, Dublin through letter-writing, protests, campaigning, guest speakers, debates, inter alia; to support those whose human rights have been infringed upon, and assist them to the best of the society's ability.

3. Membership of this society shall be open to all students and staff of Trinity College, Dublin on payment of an annual subscription, the amount of which shall be determined at the AGM under the heading of 'other business'.

4. This society shall be organised by a committee, consisting of 12 permanent members. These members shall comprise a Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Public Relations Officer, Fundraising Officer and 3 Campaigns Coordinators; and 4 general officers; hereafter referred to as 'ordinary committee members'. Two of these OCMs will be elected at an EGM called for this purpose prior to the Michaelmas Term Reading Week, not at the AGM. The rest of the committee's term of office shall start and end, one week to the day after the Annual General Meeting held in Hillary term, each year. This is in order to facilitate the previous committee to adequately complete their duties and to enable the incoming committee to assume power without encumbrances.

(a) The Chairperson shall be responsible for the society's activities and for the society's relations within the college and outside, for liaising with Amnesty Ireland, for overseeing the members of the committee and ensuring the Treasurer and Secretary of the society are in regular communication with the CSC. The Chairperson, along with the Treasurer, is held responsible for a Society's finances.

(b) The Secretary shall be responsible for the keeping of records i.e. regular meetings, correspondence and ensuring communication with this society's members and with the CSC. The Secretary shall monitor the society's email account, responding as appropriate and relaying information to other society members where necessary. The secretary shall also liaise with the PRO in the sending of the society emails.

(c) The Treasurer shall be responsible for managing the society's finances. The Treasurer will produce cheques for society events on request of society members if they are in possession of a valid receipt or other documentation. The Treasurer may take responsibility for the

finances of inter-society events if it is required, and will cooperate freely with the other societies involved if so doing. Along with the Chairperson, the Treasurer is held responsible for the Society's finances.

(d) The Public Relations Officer shall be responsible for publicising all of the society's events, emailing members and managing the society websites including social-networking pages.

(e) The details of the role of the Campaigns Coordinators are set out in Article 5.

(f) The Fundraising Officer shall be responsible for organising and co-ordinating all fundraising events, with the aim to raise money for the general expenses accrued by the society and to finance the non-fundraising, human rights promotion events planned by the campaigns groups.

(g) The Ordinary Committee Members shall have duties delegated to them by the Chairperson, in a bid to assisting all committee members with their roles.

5. The 3 Campaigns Coordinators will each adopt a different campaign which is in accordance with the activities of Amnesty Ireland. They will each hold a weekly meeting to allow new students to get involved. The Campaigns Groups will each organise events and publicise information about their main campaign. Between the three of them there shall be a petition-signing push no less than once every second week. The groups shall coordinate to organise broader campaign-focused events such as letter writing or current affairs. At least twice every term there shall be a General Society Meeting where members of the Campaigns sub-committees and the committee come together to discuss what they are doing, voice opinions on the proper course of action of the society and offer up new ideas about this society's direction.

6. The timing of the Annual General Meeting shall be agreed upon by the committee by the end of the Reading Week of Hilary Term. The agenda shall be drafted by the secretary and shall include a review of activities throughout the year, the election of committee members and other business including determination of the annual subscription as per section 3. Furthermore, if any constitutional amendment is to take place, this vote shall occur prior to the election of the new committee.

7. The elections of committee members shall be by first past the post with run off, as in the French Presidential Elections, in secret ballot, with voting open to all card-holding society members in attendance, whose membership amounts to that of at least one month prior to the Meeting

(a) An exception shall be made in the case of any EGM occurring prior to the Michaelmas Term Reading Week, wherein membership of one week will suffice to qualify for a vote.

8. A committee member may be removed from their position if deemed by the committee to be acting in such a way as is contrary to the best interests of the society. This is to say that the committee member in question is acting with malice, ignorance or negligence towards the welfare or reputation of this society; has shown an extreme lack of dedication to the society; is uncooperative; is inadequately fulfilling the responsibilities of their position. Such an individual will first be consulted by an executive officer. After a period of no less than two weeks a committee meeting on the issue will be held. Removal of the individual in question from the committee will

then occur if approved by 51% of the committee in a simple secret ballot. The individual about whom the concern has been raised will not have a vote in this process.

9. Amendments to this constitution shall come into force only after a simple majority vote of approval of those members present and voting at the AGM; or at a General Meeting called for this purpose and publicised at least five days in advance.

This constitution was accepted by the society, and ratified by the CSC Executive on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2015