



**SAVE OUR
SCOTTISH
UNIVERSITIES**



University of St Andrews Students' Association
Student Representative Council

Motion R-24-04 to continue support for the 'Save Our Scottish Universities' campaign.

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This SRC notes:

1. Teaching funding for universities from the Scottish Funding Council for 2024-25 has been reduced by £28.5 million.¹
2. In their most recent budget case, Universities Scotland have noted that international student fee income is being used to “cross-subsidise the teaching of Scottish students.”²
3. Forecasts shared by the Scottish Funding Council suggest that income from international student fees in 2024-25 will be 41% higher than in 2021-22. The same report notes that one of the main risks to Scottish universities' financial health is an over-reliance on income from international student tuition fees in the pursuit of financial sustainability.³
4. This follows from motion R-23-14, Motion to establish a campaign 'SOS Universities: Save Our Scottish Universities,' brought forward by the previous Association President.

¹ Scottish Funding Council (2024). *University Final Funding Allocations 2024-25*. <https://www.sfc.ac.uk/publications/university-final-funding-allocations-2024-25/>

² Universities Scotland. (2024). *Opportunity and inclusive growth in a time of challenge, Universities Scotland budget case for 2024-25*. <https://www.universities-scotland.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Publication-Budget-Case-for-2024-FINAL.pdf>

³ Scottish Funding Council. (2024). *Financial sustainability of universities in Scotland 2020-21 to 2024-25*. <https://www.sfc.ac.uk/publications/financial-sustainability-of-universities-in-scotland-2020-21-to-2024-25/>

This SRC believes:

1. That the current funding system is not fit for purpose, and does not insulate the sector from international crises given its reliance on international student tuition fees.
2. That free tuition for Scottish students should be retained.
3. That action needs to be taken to lobby for an increase in funding from the Scottish Government, and the best way to do this is by collaborating with other students' associations.

This SRC resolves:

1. To work with other students' association presidents and others in the sector to campaign for an improvement in HE funding.
2. To submit an open letter to the First Minister, Minister for Higher Education, and Cabinet Secretary for Finance with other presidents to express our dismay at the funding landscape.
3. To educate students on this issue and its impact on their university experience.