**Fossil Free Workers’ Union Motion**

*See references on the final page of this document for source information.*

**This branch notes:**

1. Fossil fuel companies were responsible for 71% of global carbon emissions between 1988 and 2017.

2. The operations of fossil fuel companies cause direct social harm: displacing communities, demolishing sacred sites, and leaving communities with severe health problems.

3. UCU Congress 2016 passed a motion recognising the importance of fossil fuel divestment as part “of combating climate change”.

**This branch resolves to:**

1. Sign the [Fossil Free Declaration](https://peopleandplanet.org/fossil-free/fossil-free-declaration) to publicly affirm that they do not hold investments in fossil fuel companies, and commit to never invest in them in the future.

2**.** Demand the university introduces a publicly available Ethical Investment Policy that explicitly excludes the fossil fuel industry.

3. Publish a website statement about this motion and support of the union for the campaign, and to amplify the calls to action of it.

4. Write to university management outlining support for the campaign and request a meeting, alongside student campaigners and student representatives, to discuss divestment.

**Background Briefing**

* Notes 1: [New report shows just 100 companies are source of over 70% of emissions - CDP](https://www.cdp.net/en/articles/media/new-report-shows-just-100-companies-are-source-of-over-70-of-emissions)
* Notes 2: [The ‘2°C capital stock’ for electricity generation: Committed cumulative carbon emissions from the electricity generation sector and the transition to a green economy - ScienceDirect](https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0306261916302495)
* Notes 3: [UNHCR - Frequently asked questions on climate change and disaster displacement](https://www.unhcr.org/news/stories/frequently-asked-questions-climate-change-and-disaster-displacement)

[Climate change link to displacement of most vulnerable is clear: UNHCR | | UN News](https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/04/1090432)

[CUT AND RUN:How Britain's top two mining companies have wrecked ecosystems without being held to account](https://londonminingnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/EMBARGOED-Cut-and-run.-How-Britains-top-two-mining-companies-have-wrecked-ecosystems.pdf)

<https://www.reimaginerpe.org/node/307>

[The Dark Side of Coal](https://paxforpeace.nl/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/import/import/pax-dark-side-of-coal-final-version-web.pdf)

[Cerro de Pasco: The city built around a mine](https://unearthed.greenpeace.org/2018/04/10/cerro-de-pasco-mine-peru-lead-arsenic-pollution-glencore/)

* Notes 4: [Indigenous Resistance Against Carbon | Indigenous Environmental Network (ienearth.org) Frontlines of the Climate Crisis: Fossil Fuel Resistance - YouTube](http://ienearth.org)
* Notes 5: [Business of the Strategy and Finance Committee 2016 (open session)](https://www.ucu.org.uk/sfc-o-16#18)
* Notes 6: [People & Planet's Fossil Free campaign | People & Planet (peopleandplanet.org)](https://peopleandplanet.org/fossil-free)

[Fossil Free Victories | People & Planet (peopleandplanet.org)](https://peopleandplanet.org/fossil-free/fossil-free-victories)

* Resolves 1: [Fossil Free Declaration | People & Planet (peopleandplanet.org)](https://peopleandplanet.org/fossil-free/fossil-free-declaration)