

FOR STUDENT ORGANISERS WITH INSECURE IMMIGRATION STATUS

I'VE NEVER TAKEN PART IN CAMPAIGNING BEFORE. IS IT SAFE?

Raising your voice against the university can feel like a big step. But we run these campaigns with our own safety on our minds. For the kind of campaigning we're taking part in, it's rare that we take part in actions which put us at risk. At most, this usually involves leafleting, banner drops, or demonstrations. When planned safely, they are within the law, and usually accepted by universities as a legitimate expression of student democracy.

If you don't feel comfortable taking part in leafleting or demonstrations, there are many other support roles that our campaign needs to run! If you're good at facilitating meetings or taking minutes, writing and researching, graphics and social media, negotiating etc, you would be really important for the campaign.

I'M SCARED MY STUDENT VISA WILL BE TAKEN AWAY FROM ME IF I JOIN YOUR CAMPAIGN...

It's a very understandable concern as the risk of being an international student in campaigning is definitely higher. However, we can provide resources to make sure you know your rights as someone on a student visa to make you feel comfortable and supported. Also, universities rarely take notice of individual students unless you were involved in riskier activities, which we wouldn't ask of you unless you are comfortable doing so.

Most actions in everyday campaigning are safe for you to do. Some actions, like disruptions or other kinds of direct action are riskier, and if the university takes notice this might impact your student visa. As long as you are aware of the risks and know what you're comfortable with, you can safely and meaningfully contribute to the campaign!

CHECK OUT OUR 'KNOW YOUR RIGHTS AS A STUDENT CAMPAIGNER' RESOURCE AT:

[HTTPS://PEOPLEANDPLANET.ORG/RESOURCES/KNOW-YOUR-RIGHTS](https://peopleandplanet.org/resources/know-your-rights)

IF THE UNIVERSITY FINDS OUT I AM INVOLVED IN YOUR CAMPAIGN, WILL IT AFFECT MY STUDIES?

Most universities have policies which make sure your academic studies are protected and prioritized; this means that your grades and achievements will usually not be put at risk through activities outside of your curriculum.

I'M NOT SURE WHAT I'M ALLOWED TO SAY ANYMORE...

Remember, on university campuses, your freedom of speech/expression is protected as they are in other public and private spaces. Limitations to your free speech only occur if it can:

Breach public safety or national security

- Damage other people's reputation or rights
- Cause disorder or crime
- Cause risk to someone's health
- Infringe on the authority/impartiality of the judiciary

Recent guidance by the Office for Students makes it very hard for universities to penalise students/staff for anything other than unlawful speech/harassment. However, this guidance can clash with university codes of conduct; and sometimes a breach of code of conduct will overrule Office for Students guidance.

You can absolutely join a campaign on campus and it will not affect your studies as long as you stay within the law. The university is not allowed to treat you differently because of your views or because you're involved in this campaign. If you see you are being discriminated against for your views, you can bring a complaint or a lawsuit. We have never seen this happen for P&P campaigns.

However, it depends what you do within the campaign. For instance, if the university thinks you may have breached the law, or university policy or code of conduct as part of the campaign then you might be in trouble. We can help you find support if that is the case. University Codes of Conduct can vary, but they can be found online through a quick Google search.