

I recently had the chance to visit the High School in Portree, and do Video Conferencing to classes there regularly. You'll be happy to know that I am in talks with palestinecampaign.org to have a statement of support on their website. In fact they have just got back to me today they are going ahead. Something New works a little differently to the parties you may be used to, we have a fluid, open manifesto. The idea is that you, the constituents can directly edit the manifesto, and, this is what I will fight for, regardless of personal opinion.

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> That being said, I believe we are in wide agreement, at current, our manifesto states as follows

RECOGNITION OF PALESTINE

The UK should join many other countries around the world, as well as the UN, and officially recognise Palestine as a sovereign state. This is in line with our existing national preference for a two-state solution to the Israel/Palestine conflict in accordance with international law.

ARMS TRADING

Commit to ensuring that no British-built arms are sold to nations that are likely to use those arms against their own people, or to any other agent or third party that may do so.

HUMAN RIGHTS

Human rights are paramount, because we are all human but not all religious. No-one should be restricted from practising their religious beliefs unless those beliefs infringe on the human rights of others. Equally, the non-religious or those of other religions, should be free of interference from religions. So we will enshrine in law two principles; Freedom from religion and Freedom of religion.

INTERNATIONALIST STANCE

We believe that a clear view of the role that the UN, EU, NATO and other international bodies play in reducing the likelihood of war should be clearly and unambiguously communicated to the electorate. The UK should also use its membership of such bodies to influence them to reinforce this role and use this peaceful approach whenever possible to avoid conflict.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

We strongly oppose Capital Punishment in all forms, and would work with other nations to try and achieve a worldwide commitment to end death sentences by 2020.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Children are the next doctors, musicians, nurses, engineers, fire fighters and waiters, but only when each child has the same opportunities as the next. No child should be born into poverty and it's the job of the state to ensure equality of opportunity by supporting families and providing the support children need to make the most of life.

ROLE OF UK ARMED FORCES UK

Armed Forces should only be deployed within the context of the international organisations to which the UK belongs (such as the UN, EU and NATO) and with the overall aim of either reducing the likelihood of war or other armed conflict or protecting non-combatants (see Foreign Policy). UK Armed Forces will be structured to focus on humanitarian, peace-keeping, peace enforcement, maritime search-and-rescue, mine and explosive ordnance clearance, anti-piracy, and counter-terrorism operations. PARLIAMENTARY OVERSIGHT All foreign deployment of UK Armed Forces, as well as the use of UK Special Advisers and the provision of military support in foreign conflict zones, should be subject to Parliamentary approval.

I know you may be hoping for a more personal response on my own beliefs, however, the principle of this party is to bring forward the beliefs of its residents.