

Motion to Impeach Arts Representative to SSMU, Igor Sadikov

WHEREAS, Arts Representative Igor Sadikov tweeted on February 6 2017, “punch a Zionist today”,

WHEREAS, this tweet has detrimentally harmed Representative Sadikov’s ability to represent all his constituents in good standing and with their full confidence,

WHEREAS, impropriety is defined as “an improper or indecorous act or remark; especially: an unacceptable use of a word or of language”¹ or “Failure to observe standards of honesty or modesty; improper behaviour or character”²,

WHEREAS, this tweet represents impropriety in violation of the AUS Constitution, Article 2.1.1,

WHEREAS, this tweet represents impropriety in violation of the AUS Constitution, Article 2.1.2,

WHEREAS, this tweet represents a violation of the AUS Equity Bylaws Article 1.1,

WHEREAS, this tweet represents a violation of the AUS Equity Bylaws, Article 1.2,

WHEREAS, the full complaints for redress are laid out in **Appendix A** following this motion,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the AUS Legislative Council impeach and remove Arts Representative Sadikov from his elected office.

Moved by,
Adam Templer, HSA Vice-President External & Academic
Jacob Schermer, SLUM Vice-President External
Molly Harris, NASSA Co-President
Claudia Shek, CSA Vice-President External
Kyle Shaw, ASA Vice-President External
Maddy Sequeira, MIRA Vice-President External
Evan Chung, ESA Vice-President External
Olivia Maccioni, LAPSA Vice-President Student Life

¹ <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/impropriety>

² <https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/impropriety>

APPENDIX A

Fellow Councillors of the Arts Undergraduate Society,

We are calling for the impeachment of Arts Representative Igor Sadikov due to impropriety violating many of the society's governance documents, and resulting in his inability to represent this society to the SSMU with the full confidence of our members. The impropriety results from a tweet dated February 6 2017, and now deleted, which incited violence against Zionists. While this was not conducted in an official capacity, and so an equity complaint is no recourse to restitution, we reiterate that his public actions have rendered him unable to serve with the full confidence of the members of this society. This is not a result of political beliefs, but a result of his call for violence against a political ideology to which he opposes.

The movers of this motion would also like to affirm their own commitment to non-violence, and denounce the threats of violence which Representative Sadikov has received. They are as unacceptable as his own comments, and neither can be tolerated.

This call to inflict physical harm against adherents of Zionism has left Representative Sadikov without any legitimate claim to fulfilling the mandate of the AUS through his position. He is no longer able to represent all students in the Faculty of Arts or to promote their welfare and interests in good standing (**Constitution, Article 2.1.1**). His tweet and the detrimental effect which it has had against members of the society has damaged the social conditions and safety of its members (**Constitution, Article 2.1.2**). It also represents a serious violation of the AUS Equity policy. In publishing this tweet, Representative Sadikov has failed to conduct himself according to the highest standards of respect, fairness, integrity, safety and equitable treatment with regards to the diverse membership of this society (**Equity Policy Bylaws, Article 1.1**). In addition, Representative Sadikov has damaged efforts by the AUS to create a "community that exceeds social standards of equitable treatment, creating a safer space for all of our members." (**Equity Policy Bylaws, Article 1.2**).

The movers of this motion also feel that Representative Sadikov's attempts to apologize for his tweet have failed to properly reassure constituent members of the AUS that he can represent them impartially and in good faith, particularly if those members are Jewish and/or Zionists. Notably, one comment under his apology offered to "punch one for you if your position does not allow you to." Representative Sadikov then liked this comment. While his failure to adequately apologize is concerning, it is compounded by his disregard for large portions of his constituents. In writing, "I have the support of the communities I trust" Representative Sadikov continues to raise serious questions about his commitment to all of his constituents, from many diverse communities. Further his admission that, "I have inflicted harm and violence on others in the past, and I have not always been held accountable for it" is both a serious cause of concern, and demands his accountability in this instance.

The AUS Executive Committee has already called for his voluntary resignation, and Representative Sadikov has failed to respond. The movers of this motion strongly believe that his service and presence on both this council, and at the SSMU, is damaging to the society, a failure of service to the membership, and cannot continue.