



USJ POLICY ON POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

1. USJ fully recognises the rights of students, faculty members and staff, who are Macao residents, to participate as individuals in local political and other public affairs, in accordance with the Basic Law.
2. USJ may not direct any individual political choice and does not limit lawful political expression, exercised outside the University's campus and activities.
3. As an educational charity and an institution of the Catholic Church, USJ holds itself to an unbiased non-partisan policy on all political issues and undertakes corporately to avoid the reality, and even the appearance, of advocacy for or against any political campaign, organisation, political candidacy, public referendum, or other political initiative in the region.
4. By its very nature, however, the University may engage in:
 - (a) Public debate on issues relating specifically to higher education;
 - (b) Formation concerning the Basic Law of Macao, the Social Teaching of the Catholic Church and general civic responsibility for the common good;
 - (c) Non-partisan educational programs about specific policy issues.
5. In the exercise of their duties and obligations at USJ, or while representing USJ externally, faculty members, staff or students must exercise great care to avoid even the appearance of institutional endorsement of any given political opinion.
6. Faculty members, staff or students who engage in political activities should do so in their individual capacity, on their own time, without mentioning their institutional affiliation to USJ, or with a disclaimer specifically indicating that their actions and statements are their own and not those of the University. They should avoid the appearance of institutional endorsement, or public perception of such endorsement. They should not use for such activities official University stationery, seal, email, telephones, computers, printers and copiers, office space or any other campus facility, service, or resource.
7. University officials must exercise even higher levels of prudence, insofar as political activity may involve a conflict of interests, and their public profile may imply USJ endorsement even when working on personal time. As a rule, senior staff should consult USJ's legal counsel if they engage in political work, to ensure no legal conflict exists.

These rules of USJ Policy on Political Activities have been approved by the Executive Council of the University and are subject to the Council's interpretation.

Author: Executive Council

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