

Boycott Bacardi Motion

Text which has been used by student unions in the past

The Student Union Notes:

- 1) That Bacardi is on sale at *[insert name of university]* Student Union outlets
- 2) That Bacardi rum is not Cuban and that all the company's operations are conducted outside of the country
- 3) That the fifty year long United States' blockade of Cuba has greatly damaged the Cuban economy and negatively impacted living standards in the country
- 4) That the United Nations' General Assembly continues to vote with near-unanimity to condemn the blockade on Cuba and call for the United States to bring it to an immediate end
- 5) That Bacardi founded and fund the Cuban American National Foundation (CANF) which has been implicated in terrorist bombings and sabotage against Cuba; lobbies the US government to continue its blockade against Cuba; and in the past has given support to oppressive governments such as those that existed in Chile, Guatemala and El Salvador, and terrorist groups such as the Contras in Nicaragua or death squads in Colombia.

The Student Union Believes:

- 1) That independently of each individual's points of view on the Cuban government, Bacardi is actively harming the Cuban economy and causing great suffering for the Cuban people
- 2) That the Helms-Burton Act, which extends the United States' blockade of Cuba to third countries, is a breach of international trade law
- 3) That Bacardi claims itself to be Cuban which in effect is fraud and untrue
- 4) That the blockade imposed on Cuba by the United States is unlawful, as is Bacardi's active support for it

The Student Union Resolves:

- 1) To put in place an ethical boycott of Bacardi as soon as is practicable and replace it with a more ethical rum, such as Havana Club
- 2) To bring up this matter at the next NUS conference with the aim of extending the Boycott to all NUS supported bars

For more information contact the Cuba Solidarity Campaign: campaigns@cuba-solidarity.org.uk

Information for this motion has been taken from the book Bacardi: The Hidden War available at www.cuba-solidarity.org.uk