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A joint statement from the Vice-Chancellors of Newcastle and Northumbria Universities

We have been shocked and appalled by the riots that have taken place in our region and around the UK over the past week.

There is simply no excuse for the acts of indiscriminate, racially motivated violence directed towards members of our communities, local businesses and the police that have taken place across the country.

We recognise the actions of a few do not represent our communities. While we must remain vigilant, last night it was heartening to see people from all walks of life coming together in defiance of the few who have sought to divide us. The diversity of our communities is what makes us who we are as Universities, and what makes Newcastle the friendly, welcoming city of which we are so proud. There is absolutely no place for racism, abuse, intimidation, incitement, or harassment of any kind.

We would like to take this opportunity to reiterate our commitment to ensuring that our campuses remain safe, inclusive and welcoming for everyone, and to working together with Northumbria Police and our local communities to ensure that no-one feels unsafe in our city.

Professor Chris Day CBE, Vice-Chancellor and President, Newcastle University

Professor Andy Long FEng, Vice-Chancellor and Chief Executive,
Northumbria University



**Northumbria
University
NEWCASTLE**

[Supporting statements from Northumbria University's trade unions](#)

Northumbria University UCU Branch

In the face of political violence on our streets and bigotry spread on social media, UCU members will do what we always do: we teach, we learn, and we unite. We stand together, and with all those targeted by far-right, racist, fascist thuggery. We research, testing and sharing evidence and ideas, to counteract discrimination, exploitation, and misinformation. We question and critique, and help others do so, because that is fundamental to building a fair, civil society. Our union, our university, and our communities, are proudly diverse, international, and progressive. That will never change, and we will

never be divided or silenced by fear. As such, UCU are proud to endorse this joint statement.



Northumbria University UNISON Branch

UNISON has a long history of campaigning against all forms of racism and incitement to racial hatred. The recent riots have been an ugly reminder that racism is hate-fuelled and destructive. It was heartening to see the massive show of defiance against racism in Newcastle last night, demonstrating that our city is inclusive, tolerant and welcoming. We will not allow a tiny minority to tarnish our friendly city.

Northumbria University UNISON Branch is happy to support the joint statement from the Northumbria and Newcastle Vice-Chancellors.



UNIVERSITY OF THE YEAR 2022 (Times Higher Education Awards)

Northumbria is a research-intensive university that unlocks potential for all, changing lives regionally, nationally and internationally.

Two thirds of Northumbria's undergraduate students come from the North East region and go into employment in the region when they graduate, demonstrating Northumbria's significant contribution to social mobility and levelling up in the North East of England.

Find out more about us at www.northumbria.ac.uk

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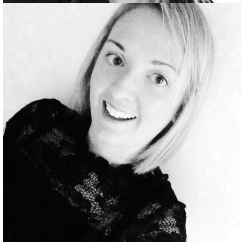
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