

# **SCOTLAND UNITED AGAINST RACISM & FASCISM**

# **SAT 20 FEB**

**ASSEMBLE 11.30am ~ Ross Bandstand ~ Princes St Gardens ~ Edinburgh**

**RALLY AT NOON FOLLOWED BY MARCH**

**NO** TO RACISM & FASCISM  
TO ISLAMOPHOBIA  
TO THE ENGLISH/SCOTTISH DEFENCE LEAGUE

**YES** TO A MULTICULTURAL,  
MULTIRELIGIOUS, MULTIRACIAL,  
UNITED SCOTLAND

**JOIN A DAY OF CELEBRATION  
[www.scotlandunited.org](http://www.scotlandunited.org)**

***Sponsors include:***

Scottish Trades Union Congress, Fire Brigades Union Scotland, Unite Against Fascism, First Minister Alex Salmond, Deputy First Minister Nicola Sturgeon, STUC Black Workers Committee, Unison Scotland, PCS, Scottish Catholic Justice and Peace Commission, Lothian Borders Racial Equality Council, Dr Wali Tasar Uddin MBE, NUS Scotland, Aamer Anwar- Human Rights Lawyer, Osama Saeed- Scottish Islamic Foundation, Shami Khan Chair of ELREC, Pakistani Society of Edinburgh, Stop the War Coalition, Scotland Against Criminalising Communities, Show Racism the Red Card, Sikhs for Scotland, Indian Workers Association, Positive Action in Housing, Scottish Afghan Society, Annabelle Goldie MSP (Conservatives Leader), Malcolm Chisholm MSP, Bob Doris MSP, Pauline McNeill MSP, Elaine Smith MSP, Robert Brown MSP, Sandra White MSP, Shirley-Anne Somerville MSP, Dr Bill Wilson MSP, Anne McLaughlin MSP, Michael McMahon MSP, Alasdair Allan MSP, Patrick Harvie MSP, Bill Kidd MSP, Angela Constance MSP, Cathy Peatie MSP, Dave Thompson MSP, Prof Christopher Harvie MSP, M.Sarwar MP, Tommy Sheridan, Solidarity, Rev Ian Galloway Church of Scotland, Glasgow Campaign to Welcome Refugees, Elaine C Smith, Mark Thomas Comedian, Scottish Socialist Party, Council of Bangladeshis in Scotland (CBS), Bangladesh Samity Edinburgh, Rev Martin Johnstone Faith in Community Scotland, Dr Rowena Arshad, Scottish Palestine Solidarity Campaign, Paddy Hill MOJO

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'Scotland United' is a coming together of trade unionists, anti-racists, and faith groups for one purpose to hold a rally & march to celebrate multicultural Edinburgh on Saturday 20th February. This is in response to the anti-Muslim protest planned by racist bigots of the Scottish & English Defence League who wish to march on the same day. Previous EDL demonstrations have seen their thugs attack Asian people, chant "Muslims out" and make "Seig Heil" Nazi salutes. It is vital that we do not sit back and allow a small minority of racist thugs with links to the fascist BNP to terrorise and intimidate Muslims in Edinburgh. In November they were humiliated after 'Scotland United' mobilised to deny them the right to march anywhere in Glasgow City Centre after they stated they would march on Glasgow Central Mosque.

The SDL spent most of the day corralled into a pub on the edge of the city, denied the right to march and then frogmarched onto buses chartered by Strathclyde Police to

drop them at the edge of the City and told not to return. At the same time over 3,500 rallied and marched through our city centre with a positive message, culminating in a minute's silence for all victims of racial violence at George Square. We lead a peaceful march which condemned the SDL message of hatred.

### **LET US DO THE SAME AGAIN.**

The fascists of the BNP or the SDL/EDL can only be defeated by mass action and solidarity. So Scotland United will be the bringing together of all who wish to live in a multicultural, multiracial, democratic society. We need your voices, your music, and your skills to show the true diversity of our city. So ask your workmates, friends and family to join our rally. Let's turn Saturday 20th February into a positive peaceful day that Scotland says loud and clear we do not want fascists on our streets, in our communities and we are united. For more information, leaflets, or to add your name to the unity statement below email [scotlandunited@gmail.com](mailto:scotlandunited@gmail.com)

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"We the undersigned strongly oppose plans by the 'Scottish Defence League' - a group linked to the fascist BNP - to demonstrate in Edinburgh.

The SDL is a racist group dedicated to attacking Asian people and Muslims. Islamophobia - bigotry against Muslims - is as unacceptable as any other form of racism. Its aim is to divide us by making scapegoats of one community, just as the far-right did with Jews in the 1930s. We have a simple message for these racist and fascist groups.

We will not let you turn the clock back to the 1970s when their thugs could attack black and Asian people with impunity. An injury to one is an injury to all - and their attempts to target and scapegoat Muslims will fail. Today they threaten the Mosque, tomorrow it could be a Synagogue, Temple or Church. Today they threaten Muslims, tomorrow it could be Jewish people, Hindus, Sikhs, black people, lesbians & gay men, trade unionists, travellers or Eastern Europeans.

There is no place for Nazis, racists or the BNP in Edinburgh's multi-racial, multi-cultural and multi-religious community. We call on the leader of Edinburgh City Council and Police to take action against the SDL/EDL."

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