Keep racism out of the general election

The snap election called by Theresa May for 8 June raises the serious prospect of a further rise in racism.

Hate crimes soared by 41% following last year's EU referendum, and much of the same toxic scapegoating that fuelled this rise now threatens to dominate the general election.

Since the financial crisis, migrants and refugees have repeatedly been blamed for the effects of economic stagnation and austerity.

In fact, migrants play an indispensable role in society and the economy, staffing crucial public services and contributing through their taxes.

In the wake of Donald Trump's 'Muslim ban' and a shocking rise in anti-Muslim hate crime fuelled by the far-right and sections of the press, Islamophobia must also be challenged at every point in this campaign.

There should be no place for racism and scapegoating in our political debates.

We call on all political leaders, media outlets, candidates and campaigns to refrain from the scapegoating of migrants and refugees and take responsibility for halting the rise of racism, Islamophobia and antisemitism.

Name	Postcode	Union/college	Email or phone