



For immediate release

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Students March Higher Education to Federal Election

The National Union of Students has kicked off 2018 with a number of fiery campaigns in response to the Liberal's war on young people. The campaigns address a range of vital education and welfare services gutted by the coalition, including the recent MYEFO package, stagnant wage growth and an insecure workforce facing young Australians.

"Turnbull's Christmas present to young Australians was the gutting of our higher education system, that will freeze opportunities for Australians to access study." Said NUS President, Mark Pace

"Australia prides itself on a 'fair go for all', but freezing university places will lock Australians out of higher education, while the \$2.1 Bn of cuts will challenge the quality of education for those who are fortunate enough to study." Said Pace

In 2017, thousands of students fought back against Simon Birmingham's Higher Education Reform Package in large scale demonstrations across the country.

'The Liberals are on the warpath against students,' said National Education Officer Con Karavias. 'The cut to commonwealth-supported places will lead to fewer students being able to attend university. This is another step on the path to an American-style university system where only the rich have the right to an education.'

65,000 young people enrolled for the marriage equality plebiscite; that's more than an electorate worth of enraged youth fighting these attacks in the ballot room at any upcoming election.

Together with stagnating wages, youth unemployment and the slashing of penalty rates, there must be increased security for young people in the workforce.

"A high casualised workforce might mean jobs and growth for Malcolm Turnbull but doesn't put money or job security in the hands of young people" says the 2018 Welfare Officer Jordon O'Reilly.

NUS will be organising its first national demonstration on March 21st in major cities across Australia.

For further comment;

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