



# SABBAT REPORT

## SABBATICAL OFFICER REPORT TO COUNCIL #3

Michaelmas Term, October 16th 2023 until November 7th 2023

**NAME:** László Molnárfi

**POSITION:** President

### REPORT IN BRIEF:

1. ANNUAL LEAVE & TOIL ACCRUED

2. EXPENSES

3. PREVIOUS REPORTS

4. UPDATES & HIGHLIGHTS

- a. On-Campus Housing Campaign
- b. Palestine Solidarity
- c. Grilling Taoiseach Leo Varadkar at Hist Debate
- d. PWO Ballot
- e. Dublin Council of Trade Unions
- f. Social Rights Ireland Video on Student Worker Solidarity
- g. Proctorio Motion
- h. University Rankings
- i. Workers Rights Day
- j. Campaigns Committee ToR
- k. Period Products
- l. Seomra na Gaeilge Accessibility
- m. Student Spaces
- n. STAND Chat
- o. DDPA Workshop

5. MEETINGS ATTENDED

6. MANIFESTO PROGRESS

7. MANDATE TRACKER



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## 8. HOW TO GET INVOLVED?

## 9. VOTER REGISTRATION

### OFFICER REPORT:

#### 1. ANNUAL LEAVE & TOIL ACCRUED

Since July 1st 2023 I have taken 1.5 of my annual leave days.

Since July 1st 2023 I have worked 20.5 of additional hours outside of working hours.

#### 2. EXPENSES

The cumulative expenses come out to €2539.91 since July 2023 as of 21st of October 2023.

#### 3. PREVIOUS REPORTS

- [July 1st 2023 until October 1st 2023](#)
- [October 1st 2023 until October 16th 2023](#)

#### 4. UPDATES & HIGHLIGHTS

##### **On-Campus Housing Campaign**



- Rent freeze [passed](#) at the Finance Committee on the 26th of October for 2024/2025, on the back of our protest, open letter and [memo](#).
- Our Housing Survey has around 850 responses.

## Palestine Solidarity





## Government fails on foreign policy

Our government is failing at representing us in foreign policy. In Palestine, a genocide is taking place: War crimes, apartheid, and the wiping out of families by the Israeli regime. The Irish people unequivocally support Palestine in opinion polls. It is angering to see the Taoiseach sit on the fence.

From one side, we hear milquetoast appeals for Israel to cease collective punishment in Gaza with respect to international law.

From the other, Mr Varadkar talks of Israel being the closest to a democracy in the Middle East, states that it has the right to defend itself against 'brutal, savage' enemies and refuses to grant the same protections to Palestinian refugees as were given to Ukrainian refugees.

His party is also the only one across the political spectrum that blocked the Occupied Territories Bill.

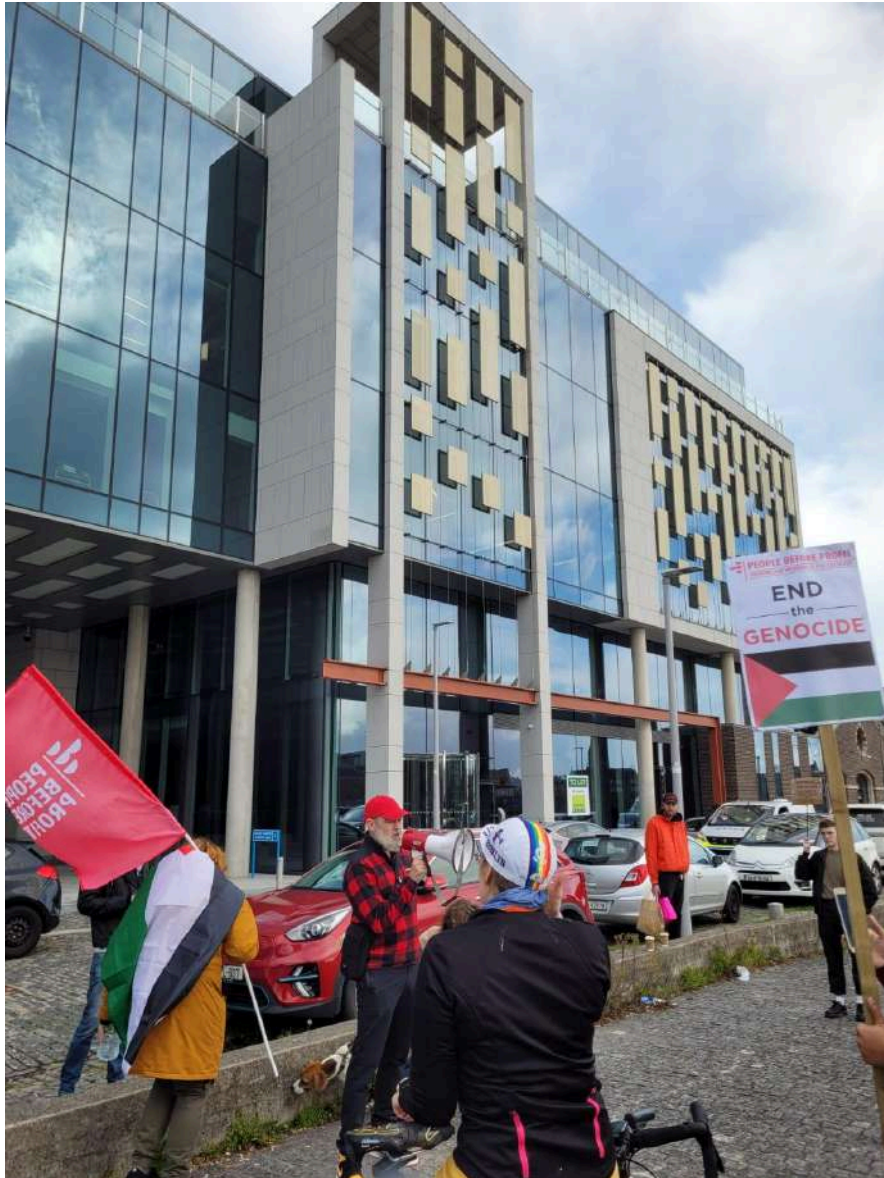
We must be wary of the government's attempt to align itself with Western powers and must hold them to account for their stance on Palestine. Ireland, as a post-colonial state, should not forget its history. Our solidarity must extend to all oppressed people around the world.

*TCDSU president László Molnárfi*

*TCD BDS chair Isobel Duffy*

*Dr David Landy, Department of Sociology, Trinity College Dublin*

*USI vice-president for campaigns, Zaid Albarghouthi*



- TCDSU, TCD BDS and PWO TCD organised a protest at House 1 on the 20th of October 2023 demanding that College cut ties with Israeli institutions and calling on Provost Linda Doyle to condemn Israeli apartheid.
- I also occupied the European Commission offices in Dublin with Dublin4Gaza and other students and staff on the 19th of October 2023.

- I put forward a letter alongside TCD BDS, USI VP For Campaigns and David Landy in the [Irish Examiner](#) on the 26th of October 2023.
- I was and spoke at the Wix HQ protest on the 27th of October 2023.

## Grilling Taoiseach Leo Varadkar at the Hist



- It was great to challenge the government at the Hist on the 20th of October 2023 on failing housing, healthcare and education policies, as





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well as the disrespect shown to healthcare and social workers, and to state that neoliberal economic policies lead to social murder. [Video here](#).

## **PWO Ballot**

- I helped facilitate the consultative ballot for the PWO which was sent out on the 25th of October 2023.

## **Dublin Council of Trade Unions**

- I spoke to the Dublin Council of Trade Unions on the 24th of October 2023 and discussed ways in which the student movement can work together with the workers' movement and brainstormed ideas for young people's participation in trade unions.

## **Social Rights Ireland Video on Student Worker Solidarity**



**Social Rights Ireland**  
@SocialRightsIRL



Students and workers must work together and unite! We meet with [@TCDSU President](#) to hear why it is important to create greater student-worker solidarity. 1/3



9:58 PM · Oct 26, 2023 · 881 Views



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- Thanks to Social Rights Ireland (SRI) for [interviewing me about the importance of student-worker solidarity.](#)

## **Proctorio**

- Working with the USI on a motion against Proctorio which will be discussed at the December National Council. [Here is a supporting document.](#)

## **University Rankings**

- As agreed by Union Forum, sent an email to Provost and passed a motion at the November USI National Council against university rankings in the steps of Utrecht University, [see here in press.](#)

## **Workers Rights Day**





- Successful Workers Rights Day organised featuring IWW, IWU, SIPTU, UNITE, IFUT, INMO and PWO.

## Campaigns Committee ToR

- As per my manifesto, I have made the Campaigns Committee be an open-forum where all students have the right to attend and speak, and passed the new Terms of Reference at the 17th of October 2023 Council.

## Period Products

- Working with Welfare Officer Aoife Bennett to present [this proposal](#) to the Student Life Committee (SLC) on the 7th of November 2023, about College funding period products.

## **Seomra na Gaeilge Accessibility**

- Working with College, Irish Language Officer and Disabilities Officer on a solution to this long-standing issue.

## **Student Spaces**

- Working with Education Officer, Welfare Officer, Mature Students Officer, Off-Campus Officer, HS Convenor on issues in St. James including lack of catering outlets as well as lack of student spaces.

## **STAND Chat**

- With Welfare Officer Aoife Bennett attended the STAND Q/A on the housing crisis on the 3rd of November 2023.

## **DDPA Workshop**



- With Welfare Officer Aoife Bennett and other Trinity students attended the DDPA workshop on the housing crisis on the 4th of November 2023.

## 5. MEETINGS ATTENDED

Meeting	Frequency
Board	1 x 3hr
Dublin Council of Trade Unions	1 x 1hr

Dignity and Respect and Consent Team with SU	1 x 1hr
The Hist	1 x 1hr
Finance Committee	1 x 2hr
Capitated Bodies Informal Meeting	1 x 1hr
BAME Advisory Group	1 x 1hr
Dean of Students	2 x 1hr
VP for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion	1 x 1hr
UF	4 x 1 hr (since July 2023, forgot to account for it)
Council	2 x 1 hr (since July 2023, forgot to account for it)
USI National Council	1 x 1hr
USI Campaigns Strategy Committee	1 x 2hr
CRT	1 x 1hr
St. James	1 x 1hr
Learning without Limits TCPID	1 x 1hr
Sabbatical Board	2 x hr

**Note:** *These are formal college committees, but several other meetings take place regularly and I also meet regularly with a variety of students and staff, my appointments are [bookable online](#), and you are always welcome to my office hours!*

## 6. MANIFESTO PROGRESS





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[Please click here to see the 2023/2024 Manifesto Promise Tracker for the role of the President.](#)

## 7. MANDATE TRACKER

[Please click here to see the 2023/2024 Mandate Tracker for the role of the President.](#)

## 8. HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?

- Join the housing campaign group, just let me know your WhatsApp and I will add you!
- Get involved in a group like [Trinity BDS](#), [DU Gender Equality](#), [Postgraduate Workers' Organisation](#) and [Students4Change TCD](#).
- If your class does not have a class representative, email [chair@tcdsu.org](mailto:chair@tcdsu.org) (Conor Casey) and you will be automatically a class representative.
- Come to Council and submit motions, discussion items and take part in the debate, you do not have to be a class representative to do this.

## 9. VOTER REGISTRATION

*All credit goes to Ella Mac Lennan, Citizenship Officer, for the below text.*

A constitutional referendum on gender equality is scheduled for next year (date TBC), and local & EU elections will take place in June 2024. To ensure you have your say, register to vote [here](#) now - it only takes a few minutes. You will need your PPSN and Eircode - if you do not have a PPSN, complete the relevant form [here](#).

Even if you do not hold Irish citizenship, you are still eligible to vote in local elections. In addition to this, British citizens can vote in Dáil elections, and EU



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citizens can vote in EU elections. First time EU registrants wishing to vote in Ireland must complete an [EP1](#) declaration form to prevent double voting.

You may only be registered at one address - students who are already registered or wish to register at their home address may apply for a [postal vote](#). You may also apply for postal vote if you cannot go to your polling station due to illness or disability. The deadline for all postal vote applications is 22 working days before polling day. If you register for postal vote, you cannot vote in person.

You may pre-register to vote if you are 16 or over. Your name will be added to the live register when you turn 18.

Frequently asked questions can be found at <https://www.checktheregister.ie/en-IE/faqs>