



Candidates for the role of Humanist Students President-Elect

Please see below for the details of **Candidate 2: Alex Martin** standing for the role of Humanist Students President-Elect. Please use the [Voting Form](#) in order to cast your vote. You are only able to vote in this election if you are a student member of Humanists UK. Each member has one vote only.

Candidate 2: Alex Martin

Biography:

Hi! I'm Alex, 27 years old, from Northern Ireland, now living in Oxford. I left school at 15 with no qualifications, and somehow have ended up at the University of Oxford studying a DPhil in Engineering Science. I'm just a normal person, hard work, dedication and honesty has gotten me to where I am. I believe that all people are and should be treated equally. I grew up in a society where that was not always the case, and with the rhetoric surrounding current political issues, I want to help prevent similar occurring in the future through reason and logic.

Supporting statement:

As students, are we not already on the path to being critical and rational thinkers? No matter what you study, from English to Engineering we all have to critically evaluate and rationalise the information in front of us.

I believe that all humans, no matter where they are born are equal. Some have been born into privilege and we are all a product of our environment and experiences. I was born and lived in Northern Ireland for the first 27 years of my life. I have seen and continue to see what religious bigotry contributes to my small country. I think we all, especially as students, have a responsibility to look to the future and try and contribute, in whichever way possible, to making society more equal and fair for everyone, no matter their race, creed or class. How can we do this? We already have the tools, critical thinking and rationalisation that will see us through our education, and we as students, are the future policy makers and current voters, let's make the logical choice and act now to help others.

As a DPhil student in Engineering Science, the same tools I use to analyse data and come to reasoned conclusions I would apply in my role (if fortunate enough to be voted in). I can see a difficult time ahead with Brexit and what that could do to our society as a whole, and how this could impact on people who want to come here to study and learn at some of the best universities in the world.
