

**UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION SCOTLAND**  
**SCO48547**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024**

## **For the year ended 31 OCTOBER 2024**

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report together with the accounts and the independent examiner's report for the year ended 31 October 2024

### **Reference and Administrative Information**

#### **Charity Name**

UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION SCOTLAND

#### **Charity Number**

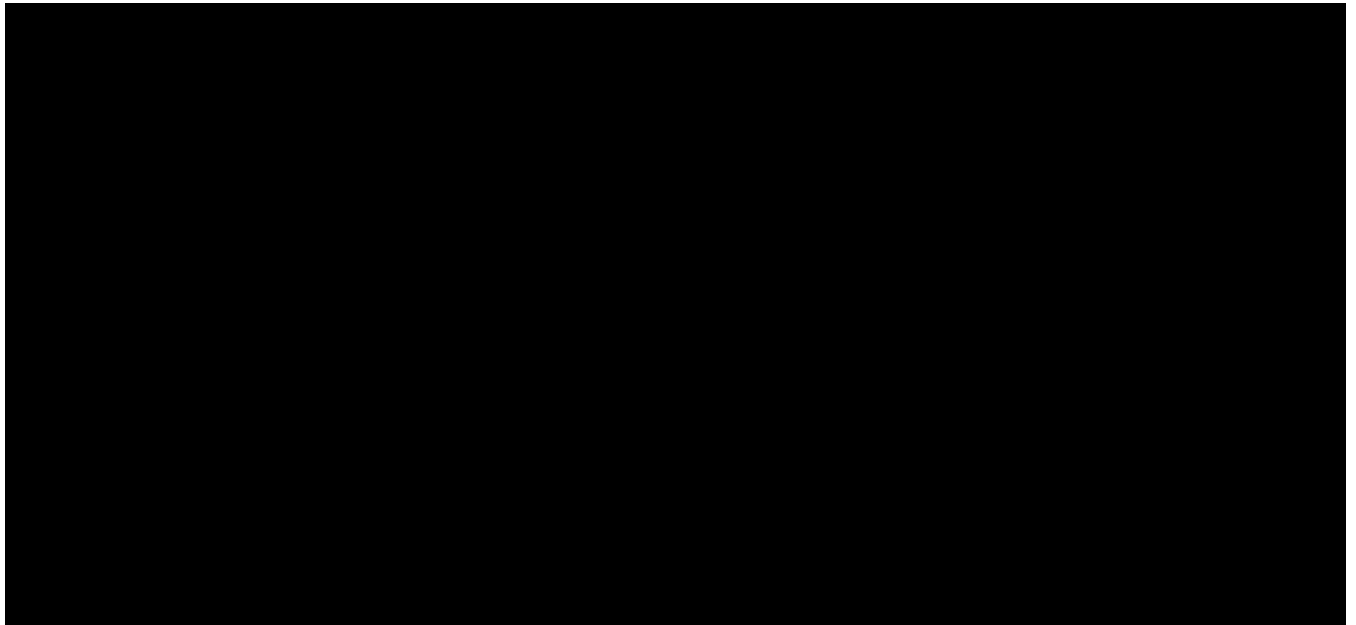
SCO48547

#### **Address**

44/3 Frederick Street

Edinburgh EH2 1EX

#### **Current Trustees (Who form Management Committee)**



### **Structure Governance and Management**

#### **Constitution**

The Charity is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (a SCIO). It was registered in its current legal form on 16 July 2018. It has a single tier structure and as such the trustees are the members of the charity.

#### **Appointment of Trustees**

Trustees are proposed and elected at the annual general meeting.

**UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION SCOTLAND**

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (CONTINUED)**

**For the year ended 31 OCTOBER 2024**

**Objectives and Activities**

## **Charitable purposes**

Activity towards “the prevention or relief of poverty”, “the advancement of education”, “the advancement of citizenship or community development”, “the advancement of human rights, conflict resolution or reconciliation”, “the promotion of religious or racial harmony”, “the promotion of equality and diversity”, “the relief of those in need by reason of age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage”.

## **Chair’s Report**

The year began with UNAS outlining three key goals that they wished to take forward this year in continuation of the previous year:

1. Define the UNHS / UNAS relationship both internally for ourselves and externally for others.
2. Strengthen existing partnerships and, where possible, form new ones with different organisations and UNAs in Scotland and the UK
3. Nurture partnerships within our branches at UNAS.

It was believed that while we had made progress in all three areas, further development could be made on each.

Indeed, what with a new Constitution being agreed, less focus was spent on defining the UNHS and UNAS relationship in the working group created for this purpose, but more so on defining it in the public space. The support team at UNHS also began work on the UNAS website. All branches ensured that the information on their branch was up-to-date and was informative as possible.

Partnerships were also maintained over the course of the year and new ones were formed. Georgiana, the UNAS Vice Chair, attended the Summit of the Future in New York in September 2024 and widely shared her experience with UNAs in the UK, encouraging other young people to get involved.

Our third goal was to nurture partnerships with our branches. Multiple attendees from branches all over Scotland attended the Glasgow Remembrance Day Parade in 2023, providing encouragement that more in person collaboration and attendance will take place in 2024 and 2025. In fact, there has been suggestion of an in-person AGM with, of course, accommodations for those joining online.

It has been, as always, an absolute pleasure being Chair of UNA Scotland and I look forward to seeing where 2025 takes us.

## **Achievements and Performance**

The year has been exceptionally busy for many of our eight branches and for our major Committee, UN House Scotland. Their reports indicate the wide range of activities undertaken and their collaboration with other civil society organisations.

## **UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION SCOTLAND**

### **TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (CONTINUED)**

**For the year ended 31 OCTOBER 2024**

#### **Aberdeen Branch**

It has been a busy year with a very successful meeting at the Town House in Aberdeen. It was on the Pact for the Future with Georgiana Bugeag and Nicholas Maulet as speakers. [REDACTED] an ACC Councillor who Chaired the meeting, placed a Motion for Council to endorse it.

#### **Edinburgh Branch**

The Branch has continued to work closely with UNHS, based in our Frederick St Office. We have been delighted with the wide range of activities organised by the interns at UNHS and welcome the lease arrangement for the office accommodation.

#### **Glasgow Branch**

Chair's statement: While COP28 may not have concluded with the unequivocally positive outcomes we all hoped for, the sheer presence and engagement of diverse individuals from around the globe left me inspired. The collective energy towards addressing climate challenges was palpable, and it felt like a significant step forward in mobilizing a broader community for sustainable change.

The Branch has been actively sharing updates on the COP28 experience via UNAG's social media page and have tagged UNHS whenever relevant. [UNA Glasgow: Posts | LinkedIn](#) It is crucial to leverage these platforms to amplify our collective voice and reach a wider audience.

Recently, as Chair of UNAG, I conducted a local session where I shared insights from COP-29 and explained the key discussions and outcomes of the conference. I was delighted to have more than 20 women attend the session, actively engaging with the material and contributing to a vibrant dialogue. (I have attached a photo from the session for your reference.)

Building on this momentum, Glasgow Branch launched an online engagement series titled *"Voices from COP-29"*. The series has already featured interviews with over three individuals from various countries, and I plan to share new content monthly. Additionally, I have written two blogs: one providing insight into what happens in the negotiation rooms at COP-29 and another summarizing the key outcomes of the conference. I am coordinating with Hannah to have these blogs published on the UNHS website to ensure they reach a wider audience.

We had 21 at the 2023 Remembrance Day parade including a Chinese family of 3 generations and 5 American students from Edinburgh one of whom volunteered to carry the UN banner.

#### **Highlands and Islands Branch**

The Branch continues to organise meetings with other charities and civil society organisations in Orkney. The focus has been on energy and renewable sources of energy.

## **TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (CONTINUED)**

**For the year ended 31 OCTOBER 2024**

### **St Andrews Branch**

We have had a successful and rewarding year. We held weekly meetings, released regular podcast episodes and POPs, and established UNA St Andrews' own Journalism Committee. Since then, our Journalism team has published several articles, including a special issue for the St Andrews Law Review on human rights. We have increased our membership by approximately 200 members (at £3 per member).

During this period, we have hosted several notable events, including two photojournalism events featuring multi-award-winning photojournalists from across the UK. Additionally, we have organised several fundraisers, such as the Christmas drive for Shelter Scotland, the [REDACTED] charity speaker event and fundraiser, as well as general pub quizzes.

### **Stirling Branch**

In the first half of the academic year 2023/24, we organised several activities with our members at the University of Stirling.

For example, in December 2023, we collaborated with other student societies to host a Charity Christmas Ceilidh for Forth Valley Welcome. Forth Valley Welcome 'is a group formed in June 2015, dedicated to addressing the plight of vulnerable refugees from Syria, South Sudan, Sudan, Afghanistan, and Ukraine' (Forth Valley Welcome Webpage). More information available here: [Forth Valley Welcome](#). At the Christmas Ceilidh, UNA Stirling and six other UoS societies managed to raise a total amount of £855.30.

Moreover, we attended guest-speaking events with our members related to international politics and shared links to (online) events focused on international politics, NGOs and the UN.

### **Financial Review**

During the year, the charity received various grants as shown in the accounts. Some of this had not been sent spent by 31 October 2024 resulting in a balance on restricted funds of £18,173 (2023 £13,648). There is a deficit on unrestricted funds as at 31 October 2024 of £1,115 (2023 £2,504)

This deficit was as a result of an unexpected, essential repair being carried out. The trustees expect this deficit will be cleared in the year ended 31 October 2025.

Approved by trustees on 5 April 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Hana Shono

**Chair UNAS**

**UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION SCOTLAND**

**Year ended 31 OCTOBER 2024**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 October 2024 set out on pages 6 to 8.

### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10 (1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44 (1) (c) of the Act and to state whether matters have come to my attention.

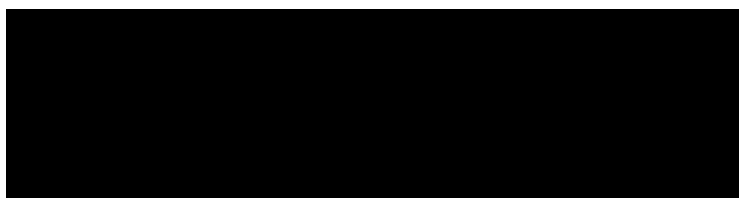
### **Basis of independent examiner's statement**

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

In the course of my examination, I noted that the unrestricted funds are overdrawn. As noted in the trustees report the trustees have measures in hand to rectify this situation. Otherwise, no other matter has come to my attention.

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44 (1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulationshave not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



## **UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION SCOTLAND**

**Year ended 31 OCTOBER 2024**

### **STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS**

<b>2024</b>			<b>2023</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>

	Notes	£	£	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>					
Donations		1,364	-	<b>1,364</b>	4,174
Grants	4	-	65,869	<b>50,869</b>	59,378
Affiliation fees		740	-	<b>740</b>	720
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		2,104	65,869	<b>67,973</b>	64,272
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Payments</b>					
Payments relating directly to charitable activities	5		57,222	<b>57,222</b>	<b>49,701</b>
Professional fees		-	-	-	-
<i>Governance costs</i>					
Administration		715	3,942	<b>4,657</b>	7,398
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		715	61,164	<b>61,879</b>	58,980
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Surplus for the year</b>		1,389	4,705	<b>6,094</b>	5,292
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

## STATEMENT OF BALANCES

### Bank balance

as at 31 October 2023 **10,964** 5,672

Surplus for the year **6,094** 5,292

As at 31 October 2024 **17,058** 10,964

The notes on pages 6 to 8 form part of these accounts

Signed on behalf of all trustees on 5<sup>th</sup> April 2025



## UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION SCOTLAND

Year ended 31 OCTOBER 2024

## NOTES TO ACCOUNTS

### 1. Basis of Accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

## 2. Nature and purpose of funds

Unrestricted funds are those that may be used at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. The trustees maintain a single unrestricted fund for the day to day running of the charity.

Restricted funds may only be used for specific purposes. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for a specific purpose.

## 3. Trustees

4 trustees received any money during the year. Payments consisted of stipends and expenses paid to trustees as reimbursement of payments made on behalf of United Nations Association Scotland

## 4. Grants received

	Unrestricted Funds £	2024 Restricted Funds £	Total £	2023 Total £
Joseph Rowntree Trust	-	50,869	50,869	59,073
Foundation Scotland	-	15,000	15,000	-
UNWRA	-	-	-	305
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	-	65,869	65,869	59,378
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Funding from Joseph Rowntree Trust was for International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons. This grant is received by the charity to be shared with two other partners Foundation Scotland fund was for delivery of model UN workshops for schools.

## UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION SCOTLAND

Year ended 31 OCTOBER 2024

## NOTES TO ACCOUNTS

	Unrestricted Funds £	2024 Restricted Funds £	Total £	2023 Total £
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## 5. Cost of Charitable activities



Payment to Partners	-	38,766	<b>38,766</b>	
IT & media	-	854	<b>854</b>	
Travel	-	7,198	<b>7,198</b>	
Stipends	-	9,491	<b>9,491</b>	
Other	-	913	<b>913</b>	
	-	57,222	<b>57,222</b>	51,582

<b>6. Restricted Funds</b>	Balance at 31 October 2023	Grant	Spent	Balance at 31 October 2024
	£	£	£	£
International Campaign to Abolish nuclear weapons	13,468	50,869	(46,164)	18,173
MUN	-	15,000	(15,000)	-