



## Jubilee Scotland Charter

# Who we are and what we do

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# **INTRODUCTION**

## **About Jubilee Scotland**

Jubilee Scotland was founded by a broad movement of campaigners, faith groups and civil society organisations to continue the work of the Jubilee 2000 coalition in Scotland in calling for the cancellation of unjust and unpayable global debt. We work in solidarity with partners in Scotland, and as part of an international movement, for the cancellation of all unpayable and unjust sovereign debts, and for the establishment of a fair and transparent process by which such debts will be prevented from accumulating again in the future.

## **About this Charter**

### **What is the Jubilee Scotland Charter?**

The Jubilee Scotland Charter is a simple, accessible document that outlines what Jubilee Scotland is and what it does.

### **Why do we have a Charter?**

The Charter exists to inform, guide and focus:

- the decision-making of the Campaign Coordinating Group (CCG) and its sub-groups;
- the work of staff and volunteers;
- the participation of our campaigners, members and partners.

### **How is the Charter reviewed?**

Jubilee Scotland's CCG will review and revise this Charter as required to ensure it continues to represent and guide the organisation accurately and effectively.

# PART ONE - MISSION

## Our vision (what we want to see)

Jubilee Scotland wants to see millions of people lift themselves out of poverty as more governments in developing countries stop paying back unjust and unpayable debts and invest more in citizen-determined needs, such as health, education and livelihoods.

## The challenge and the opportunity

The life chances of hundreds of millions of people are being reduced by the burden of unjust debt.<sup>1</sup>

Sustained international campaigning is required to challenge these debts if other efforts to reduce poverty, inequality and conflict are to be effective. Fortunately, politicians, companies and institutions based in or linked to Scotland can influence and change the situation, and thousands of people in Scotland have shown that they care about this issue by joining effective campaigns designed by Jubilee Scotland and its partners.

## What we are doing about it

Jubilee Scotland inspires and equips people to take action against unjust debts and debt systems that contribute to global poverty, inequality and conflict.

## Our values

Jubilee Scotland has three key value sets that underpin how we operate, campaign and partner with others.

We seek to be:

- **Legitimate.** We will convey information, make decisions and promote action based on the most reliable and current sources of evidence-based information.
- **Effective.** We will be strategic, principled, dynamic and collaborative in our campaigning. We will see our role in the context of an international movement, and work with clear definitions of short and long-term success.
- **Accessible.** We will communicate with our audiences in clear, consistent, engaging and wherever possible positive language. We will report campaign successes and personal stories alongside the challenges we identify to inspire and involve the widest range of stakeholders. All our work will be governed by a robust Equal Opportunities Policy.

## Our guiding principles

Operationally, our activities, campaigns and governance are guided by the following positions.

### (i) How we define unjust and unpayable debt

Jubilee Scotland defines debts as 'unjust' on a case-by-case basis by drawing on research with and from our partners (see below). Unjust loans include those:

- made to dictators and unelected regimes
- relating to weaponry or environmentally unsound projects
- made to countries that could evidently not afford to repay them
- made without transparent scrutiny by the debtor country, including civil society.
- associated with conditionalities that compromise the borrower country's sovereignty

We define as 'unpayable' those debts which cannot be repaid without grievously impairing a country's ability to afford its key priorities, such as health, welfare and education.

### (ii) Who we work with to define and monitor unjust debt

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<sup>1</sup> See our guiding principles below for our definition of unjust and unpayable debt.

We stay informed about the impact of debt *and* its cancellation on three levels:

- Through continuous discussion with other **international** agencies and networks working on debt including Jubilee Debt Campaign, the European Network on Debt and Development (EURODAD), Jubilee South, the Bretton Woods Project and the African Forum and Network on Debt and Development (AFRODAD).
- Through these networks, we develop and maintain direct relationships with **NGOs working on the ground** in developing countries monitoring government finance, new loans and the impacts of debt repayment. We occasionally host campaigners in Scotland from these NGOs to inform and inspire our audiences directly.
- We check and strengthen this information through our relationships with and awareness of the work of our **Scottish member organisations** as they relate to a range of relevant issues.<sup>2</sup>

We also *input* into the work of these organisations, to advance awareness of the opportunities for influence in the UK and in Scotland particularly.

### (iii) How we relate to those affected by debt

- **Solidarity.** Our relation to the unjust debts shouldered by developing countries is not a charitable one. It reflects a deficit of accountability in the financial systems of developed countries, which affects us all.
- **Partnership.** In addressing these challenges, we have as much to learn as we do to offer to those affected by debt. We campaign as partners of citizens, NGOs and agencies affected by and working on debt at all levels.

### (iv) How we measure success

We will measure and report successes to our audiences with reference to the outcomes identified in specific campaigns and by our general Theory of Change (see supporting document). Our successes include those achieved with our members through our work in Scotland, and by the international movement of which we are a part. In 2012-13 we will establish and develop the resources of a Campaign Monitoring Group which will ensure even greater consistency and robustness of evaluation and motivational reporting.

### (v) How we are funded

We will not enter into partnerships with organisations that might compromise our independence, or accept funding or content from political parties or organisations with a persistent record of undermining economic development, civil society, human rights, environmental sustainability or peace. We manage our finances ethically and transparently.

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<sup>2</sup> See Part Three for more information on membership.

## **PART TWO – AIMS AND ACTIVITIES**

### **Our cross-cutting aims**

The four aims which currently direct our work are:

- To catalyse and encourage effective action on unjust debt by Scottish institutions, particularly the Scottish Government and Parliament
- To add value to other debt campaigns operating in the UK and internationally.
- To strengthen and broaden the debt justice movement in Scotland and to support and build the capacity of our members to help us achieve these aims.
- To stabilise the finances and working conditions of the organisation

### **Our audiences**

To be effective with our resources we must firstly nurture and support leaders who can build our movement and pressure target groups, and secondly identify target groups and individuals whose actions on any given campaign will finally determine our success. We have (and seek) friends from all parts of society.

- **Leaders in our movement** come from a range of backgrounds but particularly from our membership, which includes faith groups, charities, cooperatives, unions and other civil society organisations. We must also spend time identifying and nurturing supportive politicians, academics and business leaders; and developing the capacity of our membership as a whole.
- **Target groups** will typically include politicians, civil servants, financial and legal institutions and the media, at both Scottish and UK levels.

### **Our core activities**

- Monitoring developments in international debt and keeping our member organisations apprised of these.
- Working with partners to develop effective strategies to bring an end to unjust and unpayable debt.
- Networking with other debt campaigns in the international debt movement to ensure our campaigns are as relevant and effective as possible.
- Producing clear and well-informed briefings to enable decision-makers to take effective action on debt.
- Convening events, conferences and meetings to build the debt-cancellation movement in Scotland.
- Maintaining newsletters, electronic and social media to build and strengthen the debt movement in Scotland.
- Working with members to creatively market our key policies and campaign-asks.

### **Our current campaign priorities:**

#### **Break the Chains**

**Aim:** An audit of all debts owed to UK Export Finance and the cancellation of those found to be unjust.

**Why?** Most debts owed to the UK are held by UK Export Finance (the trading name of the Export Credits Guarantee Department) but information about the amounts owed, or the origins of the debt are not public. Many of the debts originate from deals with dictators or for projects which abused human rights, yet are still being paid back. In 2013 Norway successfully held a creditor's audit, demonstrating the viability of such a campaign, and providing a template for other countries to follow.

**How?** Work with partners to lobby the Department for Business, Skills and Innovation at Westminster to perform an creditor's audit. Work with the Scottish Government and political parties to put pressure on Westminster. Use examples of unjust debts owed to the UK to highlight to the public the need for an audit of debts owed to the UK.

#### **End Britain's Dodgy Deals**

**Aim:** A reform of UK Export Finance to ensure it does not support projects which contribute to human rights or

environmental abuses, and that failed projects do not add to the debt stock of developing countries.

**Why?** Currently UK Export Finance has very little regulation; its aim being to promote British industry overseas with minimal consideration of the impact on countries where the deal takes place. Although the problems with UK Export Finance have been known about for decades, it continues to operate in this way and has no transparency.

**How?** Work with partners including the Clean Up Britain's Exports coalition to put pressure on the UK Government to reform UK Export Finance. Seek opportunities for Scotland to create its own export credit agency following the UNCTAD principles of responsible lending. Work with European partners to push for greater regulation of Export Credit Agencies at a UK level.

### **Defuse the Debt Crisis**

**Aim:** The creation of a fair and transparent debt workout mechanism for unjust and unpayable debt.

**Why?** There is currently no system for deciding when, and for whom, debt relief should be granted. Debt relief schemes such as HIPC came with damaging conditions, and other debt cancellation has been offered on an ad-hoc basis following financial crises or natural disasters. There needs to be an open and accountable system to allow countries to seek justice.

**How?** Work with international partners to push for a debt workout mechanism based at the UN. Offer Scottish expertise and experience in arbitration matters to support this work by pushing the Scottish Government and arbitration centre to engage positively in this process. Offer solidarity to countries seeking debt workout.

### **Make the Links**

**Aim:** Help people across Scotland understand issues of global debt justice, and how this is linked with other issues of economic and social justice. These include tax justice, student loans and the rise of poverty in Scotland.

**Why?** Issues of economic justice cannot be seen in isolation. The financial crisis in the UK in 2008 and the Eurozone debt crisis which followed have meant that debt is more in the public eye than ever, and there is less distinction between the unjust debts of developing nations and IMF-enforced austerity across Europe. By working to link issues of international and domestic injustices we can help to strengthen the economic justice movement in Scotland.

**How?** Produce reports, briefings and blogs highlighting the links between different issues of economic justice. Hold innovative and engaging events bringing together diverse audiences. Expand the Jubilee Scotland coalition and seek new partners to include organisations working on different economic justice issues.

## **Secondary, ongoing campaigns**

### **Debt Justice for Zimbabwe**

**Lead agencies:** Jubilee Debt Campaign/Zimbabwe Coalition on Debt and Development (ZIMCODD)

**Aim:** The African Development Bank supports an audit of Zimbabwe's Debt.

**How we are doing it:** Working with others to put popular international pressure on the African Development Bank to release all relevant information and support a debt audit

### **No new Climate Debt**

**Lead agencies:** Jubilee South, Global Justice Now

**Aim:** All finance to enable countries affected by climate change to mitigate its effects takes the form of grants rather than loans, administered by a legitimate body, such as the United Nations.

**How?** Campaigning as part of the international campaign for the UK to help rather than hinder progress towards grants rather than loans in climate change mitigation and adaptation.

### **Cancel Egypt's Unjust Debt**

**Lead Agencies:** Popular Campaign to drop Egypt's Debt/Jubilee Debt Campaign

**Aim:** The odious debts associated with Egypt's unelected Mubarak regime are cancelled.

**How?** Supporting JDC actions to pressure UK governments to cancel these odious debts.

### **Cancel the Debt of the Philippines**

**Lead Agencies:** Jubilee South Asia, JDC

**Aim:** Cancellation of unjust debts owed by the Philippines, and financing reconstruction following Typhoon Haiyan in 2013 through grants, not loans

**How?** Supporting actions at key moments.

### **ICAN (International Citizens' Audit Network)**

**Lead Agencies:** ICAN, CADTM (Committee for the Abolition of Third World Debt), JDC, Eurodad

**Aim:** Support the public to conduct people's debt audits around the world

**How?** Supporting ICAN through promoting events and publications. Offering financing where possible. Supporting groups in the UK and Scotland wishing to conduct audits.

### **Policy Coherence for Development**

**Lead Agencies:** NIDOS (Network for International Development Agencies Scotland)

**Aim:** The Scottish Government will adopt a Policy Coherence for Development approach to their work – assessing all policy according to how it will affect others around the world.

**How?** Working with NIDOS to produce reports and guidance, and lobby the Scottish Government.

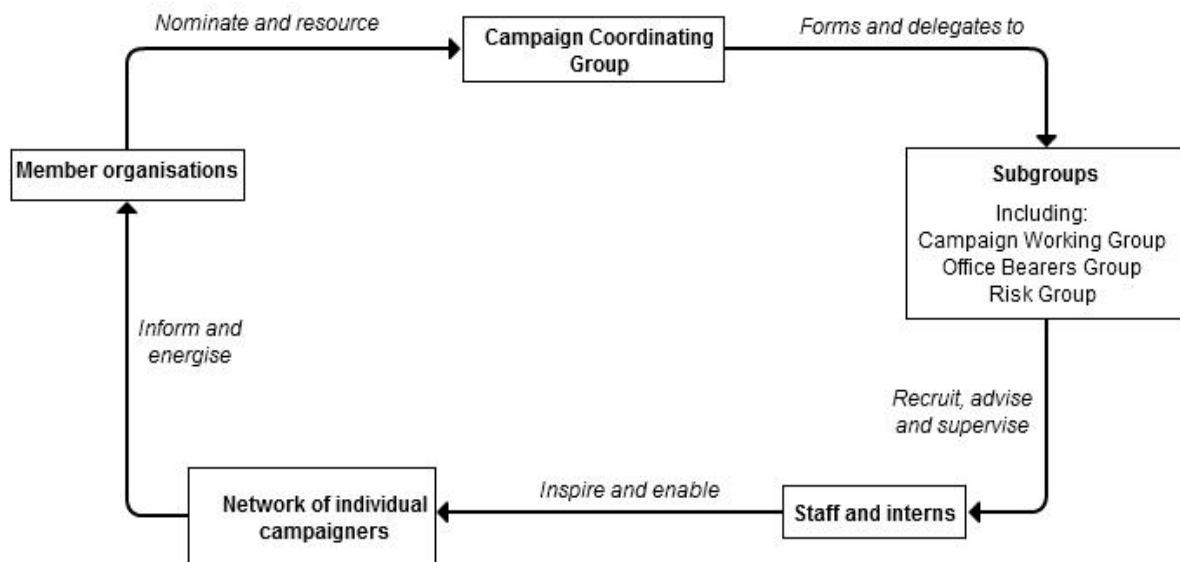


## PART THREE - STRUCTURE

### Overview

Jubilee Scotland is a Scottish Registered Charity [SC031827] and a Company Limited by Guarantee [SC220549]. The organisational structure is described by the diagram below:

### Member organisations



Our members are absolutely essential to our day to day effectiveness. Member organisations:

- provide core funding for our work through annual subscription and larger project grants
- champion, make use of and share our research and campaigns among their networks;
- are aware of and report back to us about their own audiences' involvement with debt issues;
- encourage their audiences to have a say in what we do;
- nominate directors to the CCG.

Our membership includes local authorities, faith groups, international and environmental development charities, other peace and justice organisations and trade unions. To find out how *your* organization can become a member and what we provide in return, see page 10.

### Campaign Coordinating Group (CCG)

The CCG is made up of directors who have first been sponsored by member organisations and then elected at an Annual General Meeting; or co-optees who have been co-opted by a vote of existing CCG members. Directorship nominations and co-options can include non-affiliated individuals. All CCG members are committed to advancing the constitutional purposes of the charity independent of their own affiliations. The CCG meets at least four times a year to:

- ensure that the constitutional purposes and resources of the charity are well met, as operationally reflected by this Charter (updating it if required);
- appoint and mandate sub-groups (including the Campaign Strategy Group, Risk Group, Monitoring and Communications Group and Office Bearers Group)
- celebrate, learn from and/or probe the evidence of impact reported by staff and others.

## **Subgroups**

Appointed by the Campaign Coordinating Group, these groups conduct the key work of the organisation. They include:

**The Campaign Working Group:** who meet annually to develop Jubilee Scotland's current campaign

**The Office Bearers Group:** who include the Convener, Vice-convener, Secretary and Treasurer and who conduct the work of the CCG between meetings

**The Risk Group:** who meet annually to identify the key risks facing the organization

## **Staff**

The work of Jubilee Scotland is currently supported on a day-to-day level by a small office team including a part-time Campaign Director with occasional support from an administration assistant and temporary staff for particular projects. We do not recruit unpaid interns, but make regular use of schemes such as Adopt an Intern, Community Jobs Scotland, Third Sector Internships and schemes associated with universities. All staff are recruited and retained in accordance with our Equal Opportunities Policy and current legislation.

## **Individual campaigners**

Our campaigns are energised by the commitment, creativity, lobbying and encouragement of countless individuals, both within and beyond the membership. See also 'Audiences', page 6. To find out how individuals can get more involved with our campaigns or if you belong to a group who might like to become a Member, see page 10.

## **PART FOUR – HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED**

### **Opportunities for groups and organisations**

#### **Become a member**

Jubilee Scotland members are organisations who share many of our values and aims and have chosen to affiliate with Jubilee Scotland. They receive regular policy updates as well as all campaign materials, and have the opportunity to steer the direction of the organisation by nominating a representative to the board or Campaign Coordinating Group. To download a membership form go to [jubileescotland.org.uk/get-involved](http://jubileescotland.org.uk/get-involved)

#### **Partner with us**

Jubilee Scotland works closely with partner organisations in Scotland and the UK to deliver high-impact outreach and campaigns programmes which would be beyond our capacity to resource alone. To find out more about how to partner with Jubilee Scotland in this way, please contact the office on 0131 225 4321 or [mail@jubileescotland.org.uk](mailto:mail@jubileescotland.org.uk)

#### **Hold a Jubilee meeting**

The office is delighted to support and resource local meetings on debt and related issues of economic justice, and can provide speakers, films and other materials to make your local meeting a success. To request support or resources for a local meeting, please get in touch with the office on 0131 225 4321 or [mail@jubileescotland.org.uk](mailto:mail@jubileescotland.org.uk).

### **Opportunities for individuals**

#### **Campaign with us**

Individual activists make a huge difference to the campaign by distributing newsletters, holding stalls or contacting local press, MP or MSPs. Please contact the office on 0131 225 4321 or [mail@jubileescotland.org.uk](mailto:mail@jubileescotland.org.uk) to talk about how you can strengthen your campaigning work with us.

#### **Donate**

Jubilee Scotland could not survive without the many supporters who donate to the organisation, either on a one-off or regular basis. To make a donation or just find out more, please visit [jubileescotland.org.uk/make-a-donation](http://jubileescotland.org.uk/make-a-donation)

#### **Connect with us on the web**

The Jubilee Scotland monthly e-update contains all you need to get up to speed with what's going on in the world of debt and development justice. Just sign up for this on our homepage. If you have a twitter account, connect with us on [@jubileescotland](https://twitter.com/jubileescotland) or find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/JubileeScotland](https://www.facebook.com/JubileeScotland) and twitter [www.twitter.com/jubileescotland](https://www.twitter.com/jubileescotland)

# APPENDICES

## Our track record

Since 2001 Jubilee Scotland has campaigned with partners to win:

- the cancellation of the multilateral debts of the 40 Highly Indebted Poor Countries
- the UK government challenging the harmful policy conditionalities attached by the World Bank to its debt relief
- the cancellation of Haiti's outstanding debt
- the outlawing of Vulture Funds in the UK
- pro-poor investment of the IMF's gold sale proceeds
- an increase in transparency of UK Export Finance
- the UK government channeling climate adaptation funds to the United Nations

We have also:

- mobilised as part of wide civil society protests, including the G8 in Genoa, the World Social Forum, and the G20 in St Andrews, to maintain pressure on unaccountable global powers and frame debt as an issue of justice rather than charity
- built strong links between campaigners in Scotland and overseas, through arranging focused and effective speaker tours, including speakers from Mali, Malawi, Indonesia and the Philippines
- contributed through our schools outreach program to the development education of hundreds of pupils throughout Scotland
- held an unprecedented People's Debt Tribunal in the Scottish parliament, which enabled an unjust debt to be subject to democratic scrutiny and decision
- developed rules - approved by the Scottish Government - whereby indebted countries can seek arbitration in Scotland.
- Been vocal during the referendum on Scottish Independence – engaging with both campaigns and ensuring that economic justice remains on the agenda throughout the campaigning period.

More information on these achievements, our programming and evaluation to date can be found in our latest Annual Report available at [www.jubileescotland.org.uk/aboutus](http://www.jubileescotland.org.uk/aboutus)

## Current member organisations

Aberdeen University Students' Union	Co-operative Membership	NUS Scotland	St John the Evangelist Church
Amnesty International	Kirkcaldy Presbytery Church and Society Committee	OXFAM Scotland	Unison Fife
Angus Council	Edinburgh Trade Union Council	People & Planet	Unison Lothian Health Office
Augustine United Church	The Educational Institute of Scotland	Religious Society of Friends Scotland	Unison Scotland
Baptist Union of Scotland	Fife Council	Renfrewshire Council	Unite the Union
Campaign against the Arms Trade, Edinburgh	Inverclyde Council	SCIAF	United Reform Church
Christian Aid Scotland	Islamic Relief Scotland	Scotland Malawi Partnership	War on Want
Church of Scotland Guild	Justice & Peace Scotland	Scottish Episcopal Church	World Development Movement, Ayrshire Group
Church of Scotland, Church and Society Council	Livingston Fair Trade Town Group	Scottish Fair Trade Forum	World Development Movement Scotland
Church of Scotland, Presbytery of Edinburgh	MEDACT	Scottish Malawi Update	Workers Education Association Scotland
Church of Scotland World Mission Council	Mothers' Union Scotland	Scottish Unitarian Association	Woodcraft Folk
Concern Worldwide	NIDOS		

**Directors as at January 2015**

Reverend Elisabeth Cranfield, <i>Convener</i>	Kirkcaldy Presbytery Church and Society Committee
Deirdre Muldowney <i>Secretary</i>	Scottish Fair Trade Forum
Sandy Gemmill, <i>Treasurer</i>	Church of Scotland, Presbytery of Edinburgh
John Lamond	Co-operative Membership
Mark Bitel	Campaign Against the Arms Trade
Mary Mulligan	Christian Aid
Lorna Coulter	Church of Scotland Guild
Fiona Bennett	Augustine United Reform Church, Edinburgh
Chris Wigglesworth	Church of Scotland, Church and Society Council
Angela Sibley	Mothers' Union
Kirsty Haigh	NUS Scotland
Eva Nohe	Aberdeen University Students' Union
Sarah-Jayne Clifton	Jubilee Debt Campaign

**Current Co-options as at January 2015**

Alice O'Rourke *Acting Vice-Convener*  
Gary Dunion