

Slogan: **Cultures Combined, Cambridge Refined!**

Hi! I'm Maroof Rafique (He/Him), your go-getter for the role of Black & Minority Ethnic (BME) Officer Candidate for 2024-25. From calling the shots at the National Youth Policymaking Committee to steering the ship at the Standing Committee on Electoral Reforms, my journey's been a whirlwind of action-packed roles. I'm all set to sprinkle some policy magic in our Cambridge community for another year!

My time at the Federal Ombudsman for Protection Against Harassment has armed me with the know-how to tackle tough stuff at the Office of Student Conduct, Complaints and Appeals (OSSCA), diving into issues like sexual, academic, and racial misconduct. Plus, get ready for the decolonization hub I plan to set up at the Cambridge SU, championing for a more diverse curriculum!

### **Vision Quest:**

Diversity is not just a concept to be acknowledged; it is a rich tapestry of threads, each having equal value, no matter the colour. As your BAME Officer, I pledge to tirelessly work towards a Cambridge where the doors are always open—where every student, regardless of their background, is empowered to thrive, contribute, and shine. Together, let's make Cambridge a place where diversity is not just celebrated but is integral to our collective success and identity.

### **Agenda:**

1. **Promoting and Celebrating Diversity:** Advocate for the full integration of BAME voices in decision-making processes, promoting cultural events that celebrate our diverse backgrounds. This not only enriches our university life but fosters a sense of belonging and community among all students.
2. **Addressing Systemic Inequalities:** Collaborate with the university administration to dismantle systemic barriers and biases that hinder the progress of BAME students. Through targeted actions, we aim to create an equitable academic and social environment for everyone.
3. **Supporting Mental Health and Wellbeing:** Push for the establishment of culturally sensitive mental health services, ensuring that BAME students have access to competent support tailored to their unique experiences.
4. **Enhancing Academic Support:** Advocate for the creation of more scholarship opportunities and academic resources specifically designed for BAME students, ensuring they can excel in their academic pursuits.
5. **Increasing Representation:** Strive for greater representation of BAME faculty and staff, providing students with mentors who reflect their backgrounds and experiences. This is crucial for fostering an environment of inclusion.

6. **Addressing Student Safety:** Ensure the safety and wellbeing of BAME students on campus through initiatives such as awareness campaigns and bystander intervention training, creating a secure and supportive environment.
7. **Promoting Community Engagement:** Foster partnerships with BAME community organizations, encouraging volunteerism and engagement that bridge the gap between the university and the wider community, enriching both.