## Democracy in action: Scotland votes to remain a part of the United Kingdom

BY AMOL GARG STAFF WRITER

An opportunity for freedom - has it gone to waste or is it the decision to remain dawn of a new age?

1.6 million votes were Britain counted, a turnout of about 86 announced, percent of the nation. With 31 Minister out of 32 councils declaring no Scottish National to independence, Scotland's Party democratic proceedings ended Alex with the decision to remain part announced of the United Kingdom.

"The Scottish referendum was resign in midan incredible demonstration November. of democracy," said Associate The Professor of Political Science Ken was GIlmore. "The fact that it had such accredited a massive turnout and no violence Scotland rejecting was truly remarkable - more independence. power to them."

On Sept. 18, nicknamed "the announced that, day of unity," Scotland held a despite stepping referendum to determine if the down, he would nation should remain part of want to serve as the United Kingdom or dissolve a member of the the 300 years of unity with Scottish parliament. Great Britain and become an independent country.

"We welcome the result of it would be too much yesterday's referendum on Scottish of a hassle separating independence and congratulate from Great Britain," said the people of Scotland for their Early College sophomore full and energetic exercise of Maksym Kosachevsky. "Through debate, discussion by) the UK's army." and passionate yet peaceful Some days before the deliberations, they reminded the referendum, United Kingdom world of Scotland's enormous United Kingdom."

for independence, however, Britain. voting "No" to independence.

vide (an) 850-strong unelected financial market. House of Lords," said former interview with The Guilfordian. "The Union is outdated. The only A social and political revolution nature of the robust democratic parts of this country."

has occurred here in Scotland and can be a wakeup call for other nations."

the

Shortly after unified with Great was First leader Salmond his decision to decision mainly Salmond

"I believe that many people decided said President "Not only would they have Barack Obama in a statement to handle their own affairs, they released by the White House. would also no longer be (protected

Some days before the party leaders Ed Miliband, Prime contributions to the U.K. and the Minister David Cameron and world, and have spoken in favor Liberal Democrat chief Nick Clegg of keeping Scotland within the signed a pledge to authorize Scots' "extensive new powers" Perhaps because of the initial — including tax-raising authority surge of nationalism and call - if they remained part of Great

this decision was by no means a Thus, by declining the offer to landslide victory, with 45 percent become independent, Scotland tradition we enjoy in voting "Yes" and 55 percent has managed to not only prevent this country. Knowing the itself from having to undergo "Post-imperial Britain has structural changes but also I have no doubt that Scots, become sclerotic and corrupt from having to establish its own like others throughout

"For many in Scotland and able to express strongly leader of the Scottish National elsewhere today, there will be Party Gordon Wilson in an email strong feelings and contrasting emotions — among family, friends and neighbors," said Her Majesty nation that counts is England with Queen Elizabeth II in a public constructively for the future 85 percent of the U.K. population. statement. "That, of course, is the of Scotland and, indeed, all

people of Scotland as I do, the United Kingdom, are held opinions before coming together again in a spirit of mutual respect and support, to work



## University professor's tenure revoked over anti-Israel tweets

**BY LANDON FRIED** STAFF WRITER

Steven Salaita's Twitter posts cost him his

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign offered him a tenured professorship in 2013 but revoked the offer the summer, Salaita voiced his personal

on Aug. 1 before school started this year opinions on Twitter. due to his opinionated posts on the Israeli-Palestine conflict.

Now Salaita stands at the center of a firestorm of controversy about academic children," said Salaita in one of his tweets. freedom and the rights of professors.

As the conflict in Gaza came to a boil over

"It's simple: either condemn Israel's actions or embrace your identity as someone who's okay with the wholesale slaughter of

Comments like this one convinced administration at the University of Illinois that he did not deserve a tenured

professorship at the university. "What we cannot and will not tolerate at the University of Illinois are personal and disrespectful words or actions that demean and abuse either viewpoints themselves or those who express them," said Chancellor

Phyllis Wise to the university community. People have started voicing their opinions questioning whether the university was justified in denying Salaita his job.

"When you're in that position, you have to be careful about saying things that are provocative or hurtful," said Max Carter, director of the Friends Center at Guilford and campus ministry coordinator. "But, there was a major conflict going on where people in his own community were being killed. Obviously, there's emotion there, and one ought to be given some leeway in freedom of speech and freedom of expression if it's not leading directly to harming others."

The university and its supporters have justified the de-hiring due to the impolite nature of many of Salaita's tweets.

"The University of Illinois must shape men and women who will contribute as citizens in a diverse and multicultural

democracy," said the trustees in a statement to the university community. "To succeed in this mission, we must constantly reinforce our expectation of a university community that values civility as much as scholarship."

Others took offense at other aspects of Salaita's comments.

"It's not the politeness I have an issue with, it's the language," said Josh Weil, president of Guilford College Hillel. "He deserved to lose his job. There's a limit to where your language can go."

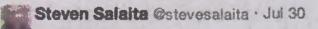
However, professors on Guilford's campus more sympathetic to Salaita's situation have expressed their concerns about Salaita losing a tenured position over personal opinions.

"In academia this is a very big deal, as tenure is there to protect faculty exactly against this kind of thing," said Diya Abdo, associate professor and chair of English.

It would take a drastic change of events for the University of Illinois to re-hire Salaita at this point. The board of trustees voted 8-1 to uphold the decision against the professor.

Salaita, though, had this warning for academic institutions.

"Dear Guilford students: terms like 'civility' are subjected and easily co-opted into the service of repression," said Salaita. "I urge you to complicate simplistic moral formulations and come to conclusions on Palestine, my situation, foreign policy and anything else — based on a thoughtful engagement with a variety of sources and points of view."



#Israel isn't suddenly getting out of hand. It's been acting this way for 66 years.

## #Gaza #GazaUnderAttack

The colonizer invokes the native's violence while ignoring the fundamentally violent nature of colonization itself.

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