

UACES ANNUAL REPORT 2024





ABOUT UACES

UACES (University Association for Contemporary European Studies) is the global membership organisation for academics, students, and practitioners who are interested in all aspects of Europe and the European Union.

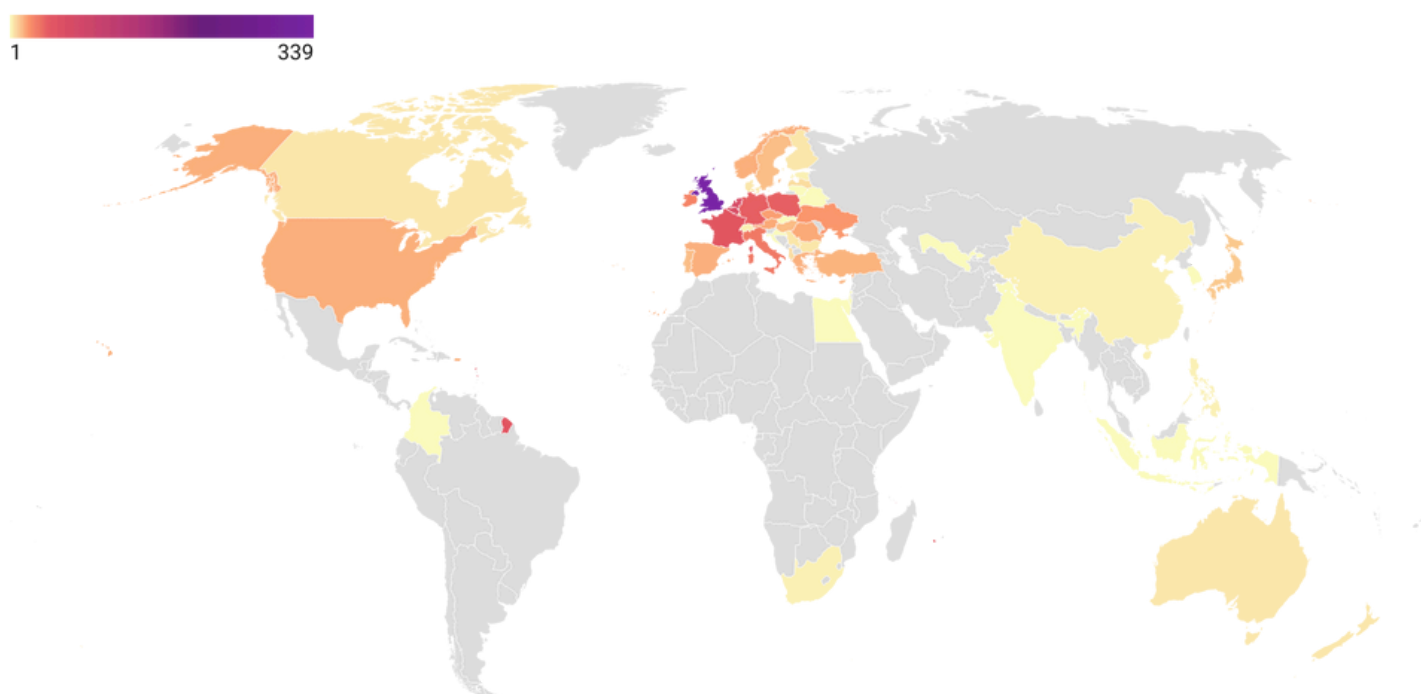
We support our members by organising events and conferences, including our flagship Annual Conference, providing grants and funding for researchers, and publishing JCMS, CEP, and books. Our Graduate Forum continues to grow year on year, providing important opportunities for PhD and Early-Career Researchers to share ideas, network, and develop their careers.

MEMBERSHIP

UACES membership decreased to 873 as of 19 December 2023 (a decrease of 14% from the previous year). This comprised 458 Individual members, 128 early-career members, 196 PhD Researcher members, 19 Student members, 14 Affiliate members and 48 Group members. These numbers do not include members within group memberships.

Our members are distributed across 51 countries with 63% members based outside the UK.

Membership Distribution by Country



Benefits of Membership

In 2023, members benefited directly from discounts and travel funding for some UACES events, grants to support research networks, microgrants, fieldwork scholarships for PhD students, access to our ever-popular email list and newsletter, fully-funded conferences for postgraduate students, and indirectly through our journals co-published with Wiley, *JCMS: Journal of Common Market Studies*, and *Contemporary European Politics*.

A full list of members' benefits is available to view at www.uaces.org/membership.

EVENTS

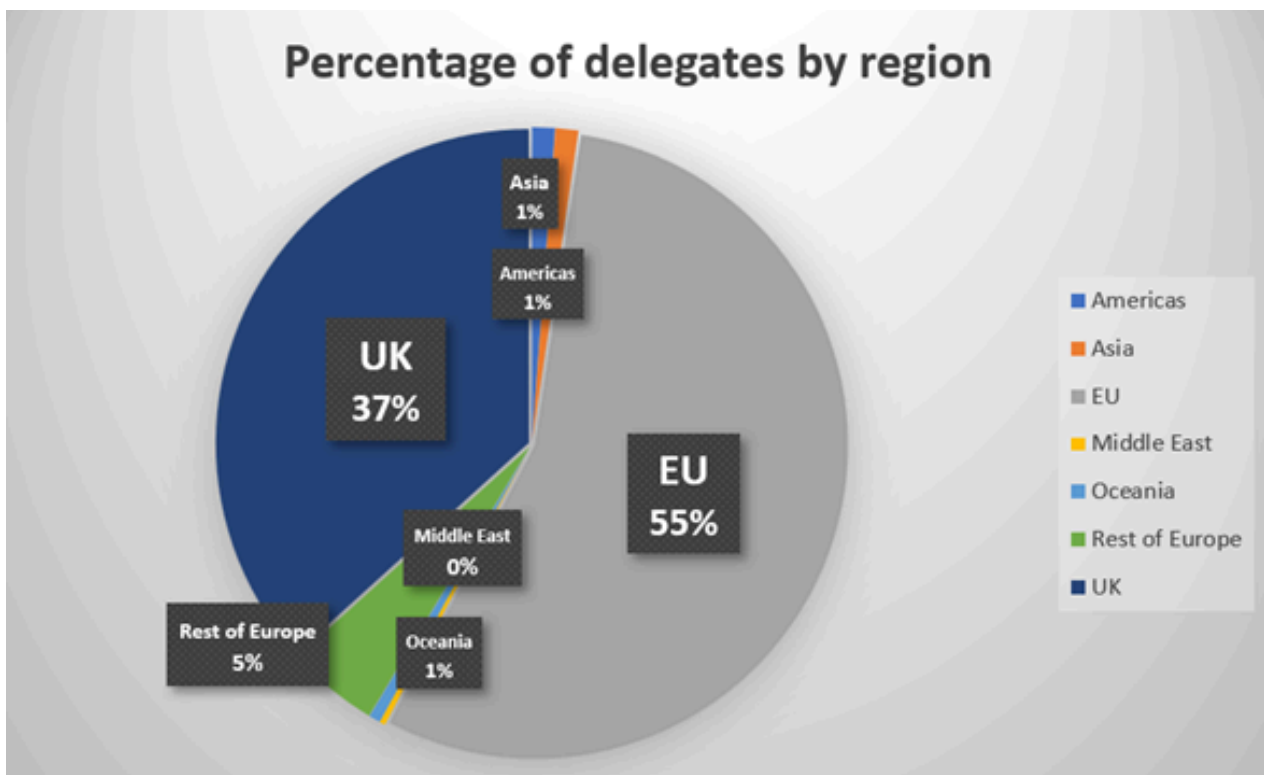
Annual Conference Belfast

The UACES 53rd Annual Conference was held at Queen's University Belfast on 3-6 September 2023. It was followed by a virtual day that took place via Zoom on 11 September 2023.

The in-person conference was attended by 338 delegates from 38 different countries with the biggest contingents being from the UK (37%), Ireland (7%), Belgium (7%), Poland (6%), The Netherlands (5%) and Germany and France (4% each). These figures are based on the institutions that the delegates represented, not nationality.

There were three plenary sessions at the conference which were all very well attended. They were on 50 Years Since EU Enlargement, Ukraine and the Future of European Integration, and The European Political Community as a New Path for European Cooperation.

Origin of participants for the 2023 Conference in Belfast



EVENTS

Securing A Future For European Studies (SAFES):

Diversity, Inclusion and Multidisciplinarity in European Studies (DIMES)

On 16 and 17 February 2023, UACES held a conference at the University of Pretoria on the theme of: 'Confronting "Europe" in a Globalised World'. This was the closing conference of the Diversity, Inclusion and Multidisciplinarity in European Studies (DIMES) project.

Graduate Forum Research Conference

In 2023 the Graduate Forum Research Conference took place at Institut Barcelona d'Estudis Internacionals (IBEI) on Thursday 8 and Friday 9 June. The theme of the conference was 'Rebuilding Europe After a Decade of Crisis'. The event saw 26 Student, PhD and Early-Career Researchers present their research. There was a keynote speech by Pol Morillas and a closing panel on 'Researching crises: a multidisciplinary discussion on European Studies'.

Brussels Seminars

The UACES Brussels-based seminar series continued throughout 2023 at Press Club Brussels Europe. The following hybrid seminars were held:

- **9 February:** Inside the Deal: How the EU Got Brexit Done. Dr. Stefaan de Rynck presented his new book of the same title and was joined in discussion by Dr. Nicholas Startin and journalist Katrin Pribyl. The seminar was chaired by Professor Brigid Laffan.
- **25 May:** The Island of Ireland after Five Decades of European Union (EU) Membership. The panelists were Richard Corbett, Dr. Michael Holmes, Dr. Giada Lagana and Professor Daniel Mulhall. The seminar was chaired by Hedydd Philip. This was in collaboration with IACES.
- **29 September:** Achieving Positive Results in Sustainability Transitions. The panelists were Dr. Richard Elelman, Dr. Rosa Maria Fernandez and Martijn Pakker. The event was chaired by Professor Pamela Barnes.
- **10 October:** A Union of Equality? The current state of LGBTQI+ rights and the EU. The panelists were Dr. Koen Slootmaeckers, Belinda Dear, Tunay Altay, and Dr. Laura Luciani. The seminar was chaired by Professor Fabienne Bossuyt.

EVENTS

UACES / IACES Seminars

In 2023, UACES was delighted to continue its partnership with the Irish Association for Contemporary European Studies (IACES) to run a series of seminars looking at the intersection between the various crises facing Europe and how these crises affect the UK and Ireland.

On 21 April, we ran an online event titled “Taking Back Control!: The UK's Constitutional Narrative and Devolution’. And on 25 May we ran the aforementioned event at Press Club Brussels on 50 years of Irish membership of the EU.

Doctoral Training Academy

The 2023 Doctoral Training Academy (DTA) took place at Mundo-B, Brussels on 24 November. The focus of the DTA was on enhancing the academic skills required to forge a successful career in academia. The event was composed of three different interactive sessions on publishing, disseminating and amplifying research, and academic applications.

Other Online Events

In April, UACES Graduate Forum and Routledge’s Contemporary European Studies series hosted a virtual ‘Ask the Editors’ seminar for PhDs and Early-Career Researchers on book publishing in European Studies. This session, moderated by Niall Robb and Professor Helena Farrand Carrapico, introduced attendees to editors from four European Studies book series and provided the opportunity to find out more about each series.

We also ran one ‘Spotlight On’ member’s book launch for Jonas J. Schoenefeld’s book ‘The Evaluation of Polycentric Climate Governance’.

FUNDING

Fieldwork Scholarships

Since 2002, UACES has supported hundreds of postgraduate researchers worldwide, providing them with the opportunity to conduct essential fieldwork in another country. Our PhD fieldwork scholarships help PhD Researcher members explore new perspectives, access valuable resources, and gain insights that transform their research.

In 2022 we received 21 applications for fieldwork scholarships being conducted in 2023. Four PhD researchers were awarded £1,500 scholarships each.

The recipients of the 2023 UACES Scholarships and their PhD research topics were:

- **Vassilis Karokis-Mavrikos** (University of Surrey): Agenda-setting and Policy-formulation in EU Pharmaceutical Policymaking.
- **Swetha Ramachandran** (IHEID Geneva): Dissecting Donor Dough: Analysing Politics and Legacies of Western Aid Financing in Africa.
- **Sadaf Shahhosseini** (Université Sorbonne Nouvelle): The European Union's Capacity as an Autonomous Actor: A Case Study of the Iranian Nuclear Crisis.
- **Lauren Kay Rogers** (University of Edinburgh): Ontological (In)Security: EU Foreign Policy Narratives on the Russian Invasion in Ukraine.

Next application deadline: 21 October 2025 (1 deadline each year). Funding available: £1,500 per person.

UACES Research Networks

UACES Research Networks play a vital role in supporting our members and the broader European Studies community. Details on the funding available and selection criteria are available on the UACES website (www.uaces.org/funding/research-networks).

Current Research Networks

- [European Non-violence Network](#) (2021-2024)
- [EU-Health Governance](#) (2021-2024)
- [EUFutures](#) (2022-2025) [Funded by the James Madison Charitable Trust]
- [European Studies in a Relational Universe](#) (2022-2025)
- [Trade Implementation and Enforcement Research Network \(TIER\)](#) (2022-2025)

FUNDING

Microgrants

The UACES Microgrant scheme is aimed at supporting research for our PhD Research, Early-Career and Individual Members. The microgrants scheme will provide grants of between £100 and £500 to UACES members to assist them to cover the costs of undertaking their research. The grants are designed to recognise the challenges facing researchers at this time. There are 3 application deadlines per year: 31 March, 31 July and 30 November.

Microgrants were awarded to the following members in 2023:

- Hamid Ait-el-caid
- Marcello Ciola
- Joseph Earsom
- Benedetta Lobina
- Samuele Abrami
- Luca Auge
- Marguerite Arnoux Bellavitis
- Aleksandra Jolkina
- Joushua M. Makalintal
- Caterina Liberato
- Claudia Barbosa
- Julia Vassileva

PRIZES AND AWARDS

Best Book and PhD Thesis

Since 2005, UACES has awarded each year, a prize for the Best Book and Best PhD Thesis in contemporary European Studies. The awards are traditionally presented at the Annual Conference.

The 2023 Book Prize winner was: *A Troubled Constitutional Future: Northern Ireland after Brexit* by Mary Murphy and Jonathan Evershed.

The 2023 Thesis Prize winner was: *A Supranational Guardian with Two Faces: An analytical typology of the European Commission's toleration of noncompliance with EU Law* by Yaning Zhang.

Lifetime Achievement Award

In 2023, the lifetime achievement award was awarded to Professor Ben Tonra.

JCER Prize

In 2016-17 UACES launched the Luke Foster JCER Prize for Best Article by an Early-Career Researcher. The prize is awarded in memory of our late Executive Director, Luke Foster.

The winner of the 2023 Luke Foster Prize for Best Article was:

- Cornelia Baciú & Dominika Kunertová: *Evolutionary Stable Global Orders: Co-Relational Power and Multilateral Security Organisations*.

The runner up was:

- Angélica Szucko: *Glass Cliff and Brexit. Theresa May's legacy as Prime Minister*.

PUBLICATIONS

JCMS: Journal of Common Market Studies

Editors-in-Chief: Paul James Cardwell, Roberta Guerrina and Gabriel Siles-Brugge.

Book Reviews Editors: Ruby Gropas and Gaby Umbach.

Annual Review Editors: Theofanis Exadaktylos and Emanuele Massetti.

ISSN: 0021-9886 (print), 1468-5965 (online).

Volume 61 was published, comprising:

- Issues 1-5: General Issues.
- Issue 6: Special Issue: European integration outside-in: Third country influence on EU law and policy-making. Guest edited by Sandra Lavenex, Marja-Liisa Öberg.
- The JCMS Annual Review of the European Union in 2022
<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14685965/2023/61/S1>.

The JCMS Annual Review of the European Union in 2022

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14685965/2023/61/S1>.

The JCMS Annual Lecture 2023 took place at The Dickson Poon School of Law on 25 October 2023. Fighting for Europe: The EU's Democratic Pull Phenomenon in Ukraine, Poland and Belarus by Olga Onuch.

The JCMS Annual Review Lecture took place at Sciences Po on 15 November 2023. European Integration and the War in Ukraine: Just Another Crisis? by Tanja A. Börzel.

There were over 547k full text downloads of JCMS articles in 2023. Of these, 18% were downloaded from servers in the UK, 11% in the Netherlands, 10% in Germany, 9% in the USA and 5% in Belgium.

The top 5 downloaded articles in 2023 were:

- Why There is a Democratic Deficit in the EU, Andrea Follesdal and Simon Hix, 44:3, <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1468-5965.2006.00650.x>.
- The European Union and the Securitization of Migration, Jef Huysmans, 38:5, <https://doi.org/10.1111/1468-5965.00263>.
- Normative Power Europe: A Contradiction in Terms?, Ian Manners, 40:2, <https://doi.org/10.1111/1468-5965.00353>.
- Reassessing Legitimacy in the European Union, Andrew Moravcsik, 40:4, <https://doi.org/10.1111/1468-5965.00390>.
- Tabloid Tales: How the British Tabloid Press Shaped the Brexit Vote, Kathryn Simpson, Nick Startin, 61:2, <https://doi.org/10.1111/jcms.13386>.

PUBLICATIONS

Journal of Contemporary European Research (JCER)

JCER is an open-access online-only Journal available at www.jcer.net.

Editors: Christopher Huggins, Kenneth McDonagh and Rachael Dickson.

Teaching & Learning Editor: Nele Ewers-Peters.

Following several years of discussion, the UACES Trustees and Executive Director have come to the difficult decision to close the Journal of Contemporary European Research (JCER).

UACES is committed to maintaining the JCER articles online and ensuring that all issues of the journal remain freely accessible to the public on a long-term, ongoing basis. We have also taken steps to ensure that all articles published in the journal will be archived with Portico under a LOCKSS system.

The final issue of JCER was published in August 2023.

Contemporary European Politics

In January 2023, UACES launched a new Gold Open Access journal: Contemporary European Politics in partnership with John Wiley & Sons Ltd.

Contemporary European Politics is an open-access journal in the field of European politics. The journal is devoted to promoting original research and insightful debate in contemporary European politics by publishing:

- Academic articles.
- Research comments.
- Policy analysis.
- Book reviews covering European politics both within and beyond the European Union.

The journal actively invites contributions from both interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary approaches, providing new perspective on European political topics. The journal not only welcomes submissions from the field of Politics, but also disciplines such as Law, International Relations, Public Administration, Policy, Economics, History and Cultural Studies, which further our understanding of European political processes.

PUBLICATIONS

Contemporary European Politics

Editors-in-Chief: Christopher Huggins, Natasza Styczynska and Bruno Theodoro Luciano.

Volume 1 was published, comprising:

- Issues 1-2: General Issues.

The top 3 downloaded articles in 2023 were:

- Making EU refugee policy in 2021, applying it in 2022: Directive 2001/55/EC and its use in 2022, Simon Fink, Md Abdul Kader, 1:1, <https://doi.org/10.1002/cep4.1>.
- Norm collisions in European Union sectoral governance during the COVID-19 pandemic: How the European Commission reconfigures norms in crises, Alina Felder, Nils Stockmann, 1:1, <https://doi.org/10.1002/cep4.2>.
- Conflicting visions around technology integration: A look at recent EU drone policies, Samar Abbas Nawaz, 1:2, <https://doi.org/10.1002/cep4.4>.

Routledge - UACES Contemporary European Studies series

Established in 2006, the Contemporary European Studies book series is an internationally renowned outlet for the publication of first-rate research in European Union Studies. It aims to reflect the fast moving and multifaceted character of the European Union as a political, economic, social, cultural, security, and technological actor and to represent novel and diverse approaches to European Union Studies.

Book Editors: Eleanor Brooks, Ben Farrand, Helena Farrand Carrapico and Benjamin Martill.

In 2023, seven new books were published in the series:

- [Transnational Networks and EU International Cooperation: In Pursuit of Effectiveness](#), Sebastian Steingass.
- [European Sovereignty, Legitimacy, and Power](#), Bart M.J. Szewczyk.
- [Parliamentary Agency and Regional Integration in Europe and Beyond: The Logic of Regional Parliaments](#), Bruno Theodoro Luciano.

PUBLICATIONS

Routledge - UACES Contemporary European Studies series

- Financial Accountability in the European Union: Institutions, Policy and Practice, Paul Stephenson, María-Luisa Sánchez-Barrueco, Hartmut Aden.
- EU Trade Agreements and European Integration: Commission Autonomy or Council Control?, Markus Gastinger.
- EU and US Foreign Economic Policy Responses to China: The End of Naivety, 1st Edition, Joachim Schild, Dirk Schmidt.
- (In)visible European Government: Critical Approaches to Transparency as an Ideal and a Practice, Maarten Hillebrandt, Päivi Leino-Sandberg, Ida Koivisto.

Routledge continues to make the books available to UACES members at a reduced price.

UACES COMMITTEE

The Association is governed by a committee which includes a Chair, a Secretary, a Treasurer and an Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Officer. In addition to the Committee, there are working groups which undertake specific tasks. The Student and Early-Career members of the Association are represented by the UACES Graduate Forum.

Officers

- Chair: Professor Simon Usherwood (term ends 9/2024).
- Treasurer: Dr. Rosa Maria Fernandez Martin (term ends 9/2025).
- Secretary: Dr. Kathryn Simpson (term ends 9/2023), Dr. Viviane Gravey (term commences 9/2023).
- Equality, Diversity & Inclusion: Professor Roberta Guerrina (term ends 9/2023) Dr. Koen Sloomaeckers (term commences 9/2023).

The Officers, through their leadership, are responsible for enabling the UACES Committee and staff to fulfil their responsibilities in the governance and strategic direction of the Association. The Officers also have specific responsibilities with regards to the provision of banking services and investments.

Committee

The Committee comprises four elected Officers, six elected Committee members and a number of co-opted Committee members. The editors of the Journal of Common Market Studies, the editors of the Journal of Contemporary European Research and the Chair of the UACES Graduate Forum all sit on the Committee in an ex-officio capacity.

Responsibilities of the Committee include:

- Membership issues (promoting contemporary European Studies, recruitment, retention, delivering benefits, supporting the activities of members).
- Publications (including the JCMS, JCER, CES book series, UACES News and the UACES Blog).
- Encouraging and developing the next generation (including the evaluation and selection of UACES Scholarships).
- Delivering projects funded by grant-making bodies (e.g. the EC funded Jean Monnet grants).

A list of all the Committee members can be found at www.uaces.org/about/committee-and-staff.

UACES COMMITTEE

Events Working Group

Convenor: UACES Secretary

The role of the working group is to ensure the success of the Annual Conference and other UACES events, including those organised by the Graduate Forum.

Some specific responsibilities of the working group include: planning UACES's calendar of events throughout the year, evaluation of potential venues for the Annual Conference and selection of research papers and panels for the Annual Conference.

Engagement Working Group

Convenor: UACES Treasurer

This working group's remit is to look at collaborative activities and fundraising opportunities. It is also their role to engage with the European Studies community and the wider community outside the subject area. They are responsible for developing a media and marketing strategy and the digital initiatives of UACES.

Some specific responsibilities of the working group include: evaluation, selection and oversight of the UACES Research Networks, evaluation and selection of UACES Scholarships, judging the Best Book and Best PhD Thesis Prizes, fundraising and finances and collaboration with other academic associations.

Teaching Working Group

Convenor: UACES Chair

This working group looks at how UACES can support the development of Teaching and Learning in the European Studies subject area. They are responsible for the organisation of teaching and learning panels at the UACES Annual Conference.

Equality, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) Working Group

Convenor: Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Officer

This working group oversees the implementation of our EDI policy and ensures that consideration of EDI issues is at the heart of all our activities. The group is responsible for developing an EDI strategy which underpins all areas of our work.

UACES FINANCES

Statement of Financial Activities

1 January 2023 - 31 December 2023

In line with Charity Commission requirements, the accounts for 2023 have been independently examined.

	1/1/23 – 31/12/23	1/1/22-31/12/22
INCOMING RESOURCES:		
Donations and Legacies	56,483	46,264
Charitable Activities	113,118	79,752
Other trading activities	231,683	225,774
Investment Income	4,186	2,441
Total incoming resources	405,470	354,231
RESOURCES EXPENDED:		
Raising Funds		
Charitable Activities	(340,634)	(319,514)
Total Resources Expended	(340,634)	(319,514)
NET INCOMING RESOURCES	64,836	34,717
OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS & LOSSES:		
Gains from sale of investments		0
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS:	64,836	34,717
Fund balances at 1 January 2023	468,098	433,381
FUND BALANCES AT 31 December 2023	532,934	468,098

UACES FINANCES

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2023

	31/12/2023	31/12/2022
FIXED ASSETS		
Tangible Assets	8,016	9,199
CURRENT ASSETS		
Debtors	259,261	235,429
Cash at bank and in hand	339,045	325,708
Total Current Assets	598,306	561,137
Current Liabilities		
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(73,388)	(102,238)
Net Current Assets	524,918	458,899
NET ASSETS	532,934	468,098
FUNDS		
At 1 January 2023	468,098	433,381
Profit for the year	64,836	34,717
At 31 December 2023	532,934	468,098
TOTAL FUNDS	532,934	468,098