

*Owen Buchan*

For the Director of  
Journals for Cortado

## Bio

My name is Owen Buchan and I am a first-year History and Politics student with a strong passion for journalism and public policy. I am a keen reader, always looking to expand my knowledge by reading a diverse range of political literature. Since I got to York, I have made it my mission to get involved in promising societies and projects. My main projects have been the various news publications that I write for regularly, including Cortado itself since November last year.

## Why am I running?

The previous Director of Journals has done an exceptional job of building Cortado to the paper it is today. The Journal now has a very solid and strong base of writers that cover a wide variety of topics. I myself was recruited and I have thoroughly enjoyed my time writing for the Journal and it has become a project that I am thoroughly invested in. Cortado is integral for the wider Think Tank: helping to grow membership, increase our outreach as a society and showcasing the excellent work we do. Thus I understand the importance of Cortado. My vision is the logical next step for Cortado.

## Why I am qualified

I have been a regular writer for Cortado for most of my time as a student. Therefore I personally understand the needs and wants of the writers. I also understand the processes of creating the weekly Journal and can ensure this runs smoothly. I hold crucial roles in other important societies such as deputy editor of the York Politics Review in the Politics Society. Therefore I know how to meet deadlines, collaborate with a wide range of people and act responsibly. Furthermore, as a student representative for History and Politics, I understand the need to be proactive in crucial committee meetings to get voices heard.

## My Vision

- **Increase Outreach and Audience** - Cortado has built a strong presence on Facebook and I intend to build off this. I will collaborate with the wider Think Tank to look at the possibilities of using advertisements on Facebook to reach more readers. Furthermore, this will be supplemented with the creation of a Cortado Instagram and Twitter page. Therefore Cortado will have a presence on all three major social media platforms.
- **Allow for a diversity of opinions** - I will ensure that a wide variety of opinions and perspectives will be accepted in our writings. With the number of writers we currently have, a variety of opinions are already expressed and I want to ensure this keeps going. Any potential issues regarding this will be flagged to me personally by the editorial team and we will always ensure the outcome is fair and sensible, with the writer as my prime consideration.
- **Increase writers** - The number of writers for the Journal has grown exponentially in a short period of time. I intended to keep this trend growing within moderation. There is still room for more writers. Recruitment will partly continue as it has been; through word of mouth and recommendation from current writers. With the intended expanded presence on social media, we will be able to reach more students and recruit in a more professionalised manner.
- **Global Outlook** - With the wider variety of writers; stories about a wide variety of political events in different countries are written about. My aim is to start to formulate this more effectively to give Cortado a more global perspective in our articles. This may take the form of specific categories being used in the Journal, such as US sections for example. This process will only be moved forward with the consultation from the writers.
- **Clear and direct communication with the writers, editors and Committee** - Cortado is one of the most key branches of the Think Tank. Despite this, communication with Cortado and the Committee has been stifled. I will fix this by being proactive with my communication with the Committee, voicing Cortado's aims and concerns. I will always be an easily accessible point of contact for writers with any concerns or suggestions. Furthermore, I will create and maintain a close working relationship with the editorial team to ensure the whole process of Journal creation runs smoothly.