

# Activity sheet

## KS3 – Election debate activity



**Activity 1:** Put the children into groups. Assign each group a political party and give out the parties' policies on international aid below. Allow time to read the policies. Give some preparation time then ask the groups to present their party's stance to the rest of the class.

**Activity 2:** Allow time for more research online and debate each of the party's ideas. At the end hold a vote using the ballot slip below. Who won your class election? Why do you think they won?

### Conservatives:

- Ending global poverty is both the right thing to do and in Britain's best interests.
- Tackling poverty will prevent failed states from becoming havens for terrorists.
- We will **spend 0.7%** of our national income on aid (approx. £11.4 billion).
- We want to **end conflict, poverty and disease** around the world.
- We will push for **new global goals** to eradicate extreme poverty and promote rights for women and girls, human development and governance.

### Labour:

- We will work in war-affected countries to **help those affected by violence**.
- We believe the **protection and education of women and children** is very important.
- We will review where we spend our budget, and send money to the **world's poorest countries**, using 0.7% of national income (approx. £11.4 billion in 2013).
- We will work with other countries at this year's Sustainable Development Goals Summit to unite the world to **eradicate extreme poverty**, tackle growing economic inequality, and place human rights at the heart of development.

### Greens:

- We will spend an **extra £6 billion** per year on aid, on top of what we already spend.
- Aid will be given to projects focused on wiping out poverty, supporting community projects, and women's rights, while respecting local priorities.
- Greens want to live in a world that **is just and fair**, secure and peaceful, and where human rights are universally respected.



### Liberal Democrats

- We fought for and met the **UN target** of giving 0.7% of our country's income to overseas aid (approx. £11.4 billion in 2013) for the first time in 40 years, despite opposition from many Conservatives.
- We believe our international aid should be used for **promoting peace**, advancing human rights, democracy and trade throughout the world.
- We believe all people – regardless of ethnicity, disability, gender or sexual orientation – deserve a **freer, greener and more prosperous** world.

### UKIP

- UKIP objects to taxpayers' money being sent to already economically thriving countries; countries with poor human rights' records; and to money being spent on projects that do nothing to lift developing nations out of poverty.
- UKIP will bring overseas aid spending **into line with that of the United States**, at 0.2% of our country's income.
- We will spend a minimum of **£4 billion per year**, more than given by Spain and Italy combined.
- We will make sure future spending will focus on **emergency relief**, healthcare, medicine against preventable diseases and clean water and sanitation programmes.
- We will help the world's poorest people, by giving them free access to British trade rather than handing out money.

### SNP

- We have long supported the United Nations target to spend **0.7%** of our national income on aid (approx. £11.4 billion in 2013).
- We believe that overseas aid funding should not be used for **armed forces or defences**, and should not undermine public services in developing countries.
- We are in favour of reviewing debt owed by developing countries, and providing debt relief if appropriate.

### Plaid Cymru

- We believe **0.7%** of national income should be spent on aid (approx. £11.4 billion in 2013).
- We believe that if we don't help poorer countries it will lead to **resentment, violence and division**.
- Plaid Cymru intends to ensure **international cooperation** to prevent modern slavery and female genital mutilation, and to campaign to see more consideration given to the effects of climate change on poverty.



# Ballot Card

Based on the parties' policies for international aid, who would you vote for? Put a cross in one box only.

Conservatives

Labour

Liberal Democrats

Plaid Cymru

SNP

UKIP

