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Charity Number:

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## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the ALSA UK 2024 Impact Report; a celebration of our journey and the incredible achievements of our volunteers, members, and community over the past year.

In our first impact report, we aim to take a closer look at how ALSA UK has made a real difference in the lives of both individuals and communities.

Throughout 2024, ALSA UK has stayed true to its mission of empowering young people by creating opportunities for skill development, professional growth, and meaningful connections. From our 'Networking with ALSA UK' events, collaborative educational webinars to online content and resources. This year, we conducted a survey among our volunteers to gain further insights into their experiences with ALSA UK . Their responses form the foundation of this report, highlighting the role ALSA UK has played in helping members gain skills that result in them obtaining university placements, secure employment, valuable build professional networks. and foster personal growth. In this report, we aim to share our key achievements and stories that reflect the essence of our mission.

We are proud to share these accomplishments and will never be able to thank every individual who contributed to making this possible. Together, we continue to build a supportive community that empowers one another.

Thank you for being a part of ALSA UK's journey.

I have never been so certain about not only myself as an individual, but also what drives me. That to me is invaluable.

~ ALSA UK Volunteer

### OUR STORY So FAR

### OUR BEGINNING

ALSA UK was founded during the first COVID-19 lockdown in the UK. Our co-founder, Arisa Reka, was inspired by her colleagues who were working in intensive care and risking their lives to provide care for others. She felt compelled to do more for her community.

With the help of her sister Arijeta Reka, childhood friend Erona Kaciu, and the support of UK Albanian University Societies, they established what was formely known as the Albanian Student Association.

In the last four years we have been able to grow and broaden our reach to provide services that are inclusive and accessible to all. We are now known as ALSA UK and exist as a community for young people from all backgrounds.



### OUR MISSION

In 2020 our mission was to 'Give back to our community'. In time we have developed into an organisation driven to

- 1. Equip young people with the skills and knowledge needed to overcome barriers and achieve their potential.
- 2. Use technology to create a supportive network of young people who can learn from and support each other.
- 3. Ensure young people are at the forefront of shaping the organisation and its mission, reflecting the challenges they face.
- 4. Leverage the real-life experiences of young people as a valuable tool for learning and development.

### OUR 2024 GOALS J Create Inspiring Networking

**Events** 

In 2024, our goal was to improve our events, ensuring they were in more accessible locations and catered to a broader audience. We aimed to explore new fields that align with the diverse needs of our members.

Furthermore, we set out to deliver more impactful webinars designed to equip young people with essential tools and skills to thrive.

### Create a professional space for ALSA UK Volunteers

We sought to create a professional and supportive environment for ALSA UK volunteers. This meant developing a structured induction process to ensure all new volunteers felt welcomed and equipped for their roles.

We also focused on designing and delivering training opportunities to help volunteers and members build key skills essential for professional growth.



### Produce High Quality Online Resources

We also aimed to produce highquality online resources to better support our community. This included publishing engaging content across our platforms, our Connect with ALSA UK campaign, and creating new resources for our website.

A key part of this goal was our podcast focused on inspiring entrepreneurship, sharing stories to empower our audience.

#### **T** Register ALSA UK as a Charity

In 2024, we focused on formally establishing ALSA UK as a registered charity.

This milestone was key to solidifying our mission and objectives, reinforcing our role within the community, and paving the way for meaningful partnerships and sustainable growth as an organisation.

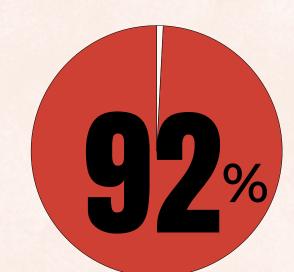
# OUR 2024 NPACTS 35



ALSA UK members shared their views and told their story

TOP SKILLS members have developed

- Leadership
- Public speaking
- Teamwork
- Communication
- Event planning
- Content Creation



Say their confidence has improved since joining ALSA UK

Have made professional connections through ALSA UK

ALSA allowed me to get into the education I wanted as well as improved my dyslexia and ability with writing and speaking

Developed a skill that supported them in their education and career



### OUR EVENT Highlights

ALSA UK's events in 2024 continued to strive to empower members to reach their full potential. This year, we successfully hosted events across a number diverse fields, including medicine, law, artificial intelligence, healthcare and public speaking.

#### 2024 also brought us the first-ever Youth

**Empowerment Summit**, marking a significant milestone as the first event of its kind within our community. This event brought together students, professionals, and leaders across various fields, showcasing the community's dedication to creating opportunities for collaboration, inspiration, and empowerment.

### b partners & sponsors 200 online and inperson events

**BBB** attendees, speakers and supporters



The 2024 Youth Empowerment Summit made me want to...

do more community work and help others

To find interests outside of my

give back to the community

OWN

bring torward my ideas for more community activities

reach out and get involved

connect and work closely with our

community





### SOAS SUPPORTERS

A heartfelt thank you to all the Albanian societies across universities in the UK for their unwavering support and collaboration.

When we first started, we didn't have a platform of our own-it was thanks to these societies that we were able to grow and connect. Today, we're proud to reach students from all backgrounds, but we'll never forget the kindness and generosity that laid the foundation for everything we've achieved.



QMUL

UEA

MANCHESTER

SOUTHAMPTON

KCL

ALSA UK Charity Number: 1211193 alsauk.co.uk ( info@alsauk.co.uk \

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has supported ALSA UK on our journey. 2024 was the year we achieved charity status - a milestone made possible by your unwavering belief in our mission.

A special thank you goes to Luljeta Nuzi, whose inspirational leadership and support from the Shpresa Programme have guided us every step of the way. Her powerful words at our events have inspired countless others. Thank you to Lydia Martin for her invaluable mentorship and encouragement and Buge Pacarada for her continued support. We are also deeply grateful to HE Mr. Ilir Kapiti and Mrs. Eranda Kapiti for facilitating many of our events and helping us connect with wider communities.

While there are far too many people to name individually, please know that we are endlessly thankful to every single one of you for your contributions, big and small, which have shaped ALSA UK into what it is today.

# WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT IN OUR MISSION

We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to our volunteers, whose passion and commitment drive ALSA UK's mission forward. Your hard work, creativity, and determination continue to inspire and uplift the entire community.

Abi	Denisa	Hazret	Mimoza O
Adela	Dorotea	Heidi	Natanel
Agim	Dren	Henric	Oltian
Albi	Ela	Jola	Paloma
Alesia	Elaine	Jonada	Qamil
Amant	Eliza	Jurgen	Riljeta
Anisa	Elona	Klea	Rita
Annabella	Elsa	Klerda	Roena
Ardit	Elsaid	Kanita	Roni
Ari	Endrit	Leart	Sadije
Arijeta	Erijon <mark>a</mark>	Lenda	Sara Be
Arisa	Eriola	Leonita	Sara Bo
Ariton	Erisa	Lidia	Sara C
Asije	Eron	Lorinda	Sindy
Aurora	Erona	Lorisa	Suzana
Benisa	Ersa	Luisa	Tijen
Bilbil	Erza	Malsore	Toska
Bjamela	Fatbardha	Marsioleda	Trina
Blerona	Fatos	Megi	Ueda
Briana	Fiorella	Melisa	Uran
Chloe	Gabriella	Milena	Urim
Damian	Genta	Mimoza E	Vlera
Dea	Gjovani		Zahra