



## **Threat to Liberty of Thought**

(appeal, with others)

This PDF is one of a series designed to assist scholars in their research on Isaiah Berlin, and the subjects in which he was interested.

The series will make digitally available both selected published essays and edited transcripts of unpublished material.

The PDF is posted by the Isaiah Berlin Legacy Fellow at Wolfson College, with the support of the Trustees of the Isaiah Berlin Literary Trust.

All enquiries, including those concerning rights, should be directed to the Legacy Fellow at [berlin@wolfson.ox.ac.uk](mailto:berlin@wolfson.ox.ac.uk)

# Threat to Liberty of Thought

(appeal, with others)

*The Observer*, 8 November 1959, 8a, reported an appeal [quoted in blue] signed by Bertrand Russell, Isaiah Berlin, A. J. Ayer, Stuart Hampshire and Alan Bullock, 'prompted by the South African Government's "latest move to destroy liberty of thought by crushing university education for Africans"'; the Government 'has now seized control of university education for Africans and made it an offence for members of the staff to voice disapproval of political policies'. Support is requested for the Defence and Aid Fund, 'established to defend human liberty and dignity in Africa'.



*Union Hall, University of Fort Hare, where nine members of staff had been dismissed for voicing 'disapproval of political policies', and 'in future the students themselves are to be carefully screened'*

**Posted in Isaiah Berlin Online 26 April 2022**

**Revised the same day**