



By: TA | AP Brief

# Starmmer urges tougher action against Gaza protests in UK



Britain's prime minister warned that tougher action was needed against people chanting certain phrases at pro-Palestinian protests, as concerns grew over the safety of British Jews after the **stabblings of two Jewish men** in London.

Keir Starmer said he would always defend the right to protest, but said there may be instances where some marches protesting the war in Gaza should be banned. He suggested that repeated pro-Palestinian marches have had a "cumulative effect" linked to the rise in antisemitic incidents in the U.K.

"When you see, when you hear some of those chants – 'globalize the intifada' would be one I would pick out – then clearly there should be tougher action in relation to that," Starmer told the BBC. The Arabic word intifada is generally translated as "uprising."

A 45-year-old man was charged Friday with attempted murder after two Jewish men were stabbed and wounded Wednesday in Golders Green, a London neighborhood that's an epicenter of Britain's Jewish community. Police called the attack an act of terrorism.

It was the latest in a string of incidents including recent **arson attacks** on synagogues and other Jewish sites in the British capital.

## British Jews are facing their greatest ever threat

The U.K.'s most senior police officer warned Friday that British Jews are facing their greatest ever threat, and blamed social media for making antisemitism more mainstream than before.

Mark Rowley, the head of the Metropolitan Police, said British Jews are now the **target of every extremist group** spreading hate.

**The ghastly fact is that Jews are on everybody's list - Mark Rowley**

"The ghastly fact is that Jews are on everybody's list, all of those hateful groups, whether you're extreme right, whether you're extreme left, whether you're Islamist terrorist, whether you're right-wing terrorist, and some hostile states as well now with some sort of Iranian-related threats," he told The Times. "There's a ghastly Venn diagram that they're at the middle of."

Britain's official terror threat level was raised from substantial to severe after Wednesday's stabbing attack.

Severe is the second-highest on a five-point scale and means intelligence agencies consider an attack highly likely in the next six months.

The government said the change was not due solely to the Golders Green attack but also due to increased danger "from Islamist and extreme right-wing terrorist threat from individuals and small groups based in the U.K."

The number of antisemitic incidents reported across the U.K. has soared since the attack by Hamas-led militants on southern Israel on Oct. 7, 2023, and the subsequent war in Gaza, according to the Community Security Trust charity. The group recorded 3,700 incidents in 2025, up from 1,662 in 2022.