

## No, Britain's Uygur-Piker Ban Is Not About Israel

### THE LIE

The UK banned Cenk Ugyur and Hasan Piker at Israel's behest because they criticized the Jewish state.

### THE TRUTH

There is no evidence that the United Kingdom – one of the most anti-Israel countries in the Western world – banned Uygur and Piker because of Israel.

### BACKGROUND

- On June 1, 2026, far-left Muslim influencers Cenk Uygur and Hasan Piker announced that they had been barred from entering the United Kingdom—and immediately blamed Israel.
- Uygur claimed the ban was punishment for "criticizing Israel," while Piker, Uygur's nephew, alleged it was imposed "at the behest of Israel." ([Cenk Ugyur](#)), ([Hasan Piker](#))
- It is true that both men are uniquely fixated on Israel. Uygur posts obsessively about the Jewish state, averaging roughly one anti-Israel post every thirty minutes. Piker, an avowed communist, has openly praised Hamas and downplayed the October 7 massacre. ([X](#)), ([Honest Reporting](#)), ([AJC](#))

### TRUTH EXPLAINED

- The UK government did not ban Cenk Uygur and Hasan Piker for "criticizing Israel." It revoked their travel authorizations because their presence was deemed "not conducive to the public good." ([NBC News](#))
- During an appearance on *Piers Morgan Uncensored*, Uygur himself admitted that the British government did not communicate any reason for his ban. ([Piers Morgan Uncensored](#))
- The claim that Britain banned Uygur and Piker because of Israel requires believing that one of the West's most anti-Israel governments is secretly taking orders from Israel. Criticizing Israel is routine in Britain. Polling shows that 21% of young Britons believe Israel should not exist. Britain has hosted some of the largest anti-Israel demonstrations in the Western world since October 7, 2023. ([YouGov](#)), ([Wikipedia](#)), ([Middle East Eye](#))
- Jeremy Corbyn, one of Britain's most influential political figures, has referred to Hamas as his "friends" and has long been one of Israel's most vocal critics. George Galloway, another politician, has compared Israel to Nazi Germany, called Israel's actions in Gaza a "Holocaust," and declared Bradford to be an "Israel-free zone." Criticizing Israel is obviously not frowned upon in the UK. ([Hillel Neuer](#)), ([Times of Israel](#)), ([Times of Israel](#)), ([The Guardian](#)), ([The Guardian](#))
- If Britain were controlled by Israel, it would not have recognized a "State of Palestine" over Israel's strong objections in September 2025. ([British government](#))
- Home Secretary Shabana Mahmood, whose department oversaw the decision, is a pro-Palestinian Muslim who has publicly supported recognizing a Palestinian state and campaigned to boycott Israeli goods. ([ME24](#)), ([Shabana Mahmood](#))
- Britain has sanctioned Israeli ministers Itamar Ben-Gvir and Bezalel Smotrich, and Israeli government representatives were excluded from a major British arms fair in 2025. The idea that Britain is banning criticism of Israel is absurd. ([BBC](#)), ([BBC](#))

## No, Britain's Uygur-Piker Ban Is Not About Israel

### QUOTES

"The UK government hates this Israeli government, and in fact has also banned members of this Israeli government from entering the UK. It also just banned speakers who were meant to speak at Tommy Robinson's rally from entering the country...it's not about Israel. Unless literally everything everywhere is always and forever about Israel. In which case yes, it's about Israel." – Haviv Rettig Gur

### TAKEAWAY

When two professional agitators were denied entry into a country, they responded exactly as expected: by blaming Israel.

The evidence didn't point to Israel. The British government never said Israel was involved. Britain does not have a history of serving Israeli interests. But for people whose careers revolve around obsessing over Israel, every setback must somehow lead back to the Jewish state.

The claim collapses under even the slightest scrutiny. Britain recognizes a Palestinian state, tolerates anti-Israel activism on a massive scale, sanctions Israeli officials, and routinely clashes with Israel diplomatically. Yet Uygur and Piker would have the public believe that this same government is secretly taking orders from Jerusalem.