# Sadiq Khan adopts Trump-style rhetoric in heated clash over London safety



Sadiq Khan, the Mayor of London, has recently faced accusations of adopting a confrontational style reminiscent of his political adversary, Donald Trump. This comparison arose in the wake of a vigorous response to a viral video posted by Conservative Justice Spokesman Robert Jenrick, in which he highlighted fare evasion and other antisocial behaviours on the London Underground as indicators of declining safety and order in the city. Jenrick’s video, which garnered significant public attention with tens of millions of views, claimed that “Sadiq Khan is driving a proud city into the ground.”

In his retort, Khan targeted Jenrick's past tenure in government, defending his record on policing and public safety. He stated, “Fare evasion is an issue. It’s been a concern for London, and that's why we have invested heavily in enforcement and police resources.” However, he also seized the opportunity to critique Jenrick’s government for its drastic cuts to police funding, noting, “Where was he when those cuts were being made?” This fiery exchange took on a personal tone as Khan described Jenrick's criticism as chutzpah, a reproach to the perceived irresponsibility of the government's previous financial decisions.

Observers have drawn parallels between Khan’s rhetorical approach and Trump's penchant for personal attacks in political discourse. Indeed, BBC host Rosie Wright pointedly remarked that Khan’s name-calling reflected Trumpian tactics, to which Khan defensively replied that he was merely responding to the questions posed to him. This incident highlights an ongoing trend where London’s mayor finds himself in the crosshairs of personal and political conflict, especially as he faces significant challenges leading up to the upcoming mayoral elections.

This isn't the first time Khan has invoked Trumpian imagery in his political narrative; he previously drew comparisons between Trump and his Conservative mayoral rival Susan Hall, warning that her potential victory could signify a rise in hard-right populism within British politics. Voting system changes, including strict photo ID requirements, have heightened Khan's concerns regarding the implications of such political shifts. He has expressed fears that Hall’s ascent might echo the international populace’s embrace of far-right rhetoric and policies.

Khan's political narrative has historically revolved around critiques of Trump’s policies, particularly regarding social justice issues. In past statements, he has vehemently opposed Trump's stances on racial discrimination and immigration, arguing for a London that champions inclusivity and diversity. Following Trump’s previous election victories, Khan articulated concerns that such outcomes might jeopardise the progress of democracy and human rights both domestically and globally.

As the political landscape evolves, Khan continues to navigate his role as mayor amidst a backdrop of personal attacks, broader debates over public safety, policing strategy, and the spectre of right-wing populism. His stance remains clear: London is committed to its values of diversity and unity, despite the chaos stirred by polarising figures like Trump and the shifting currents of British politics.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/2063243/sadiq-khan-accused-copying-Trump), [[4]](https://www.politico.com/news/2024/09/24/london-mayor-sadiq-khan-trump-election-00180846)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/2063243/sadiq-khan-accused-copying-Trump), [[2]](https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2024/jan/01/sadiq-khan-likens-tory-rival-susan-hall-to-donald-trump), [[5]](https://www.politico.eu/article/london-mayor-sadiq-khan-blasts-racism-hatred-donald-trump-election-victory/)
* Paragraph 3 – [[3]](https://www.cnn.com/2019/06/04/uk/sadiq-khan-donald-trump-gbr-intl/index.html), [[6]](https://www.standard.co.uk/news/politics/sadiq-khan-london-donald-trump-win-us-election-democracy-b1192298.html)

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/2063243/sadiq-khan-accused-copying-Trump> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2024/jan/01/sadiq-khan-likens-tory-rival-susan-hall-to-donald-trump> - In January 2024, London Mayor Sadiq Khan compared his Conservative challenger Susan Hall to Donald Trump, suggesting that her potential victory could signal a rise in hard-right populism. Khan expressed concerns that changes in the voting system and mandatory photo ID requirements could lead to a hard-right victory, drawing parallels between Hall and Trump, as well as other far-right figures like Geert Wilders.
3. <https://www.cnn.com/2019/06/04/uk/sadiq-khan-donald-trump-gbr-intl/index.html> - In June 2019, London Mayor Sadiq Khan criticised President Donald Trump, stating that amplifying racist views and separating children from their parents at the border were wrong. Khan also condemned Trump's ban on individuals from certain countries and the rollback of reproductive rights, while acknowledging the UK's special relationship with the US and respect for American politicians.
4. <https://www.politico.com/news/2024/09/24/london-mayor-sadiq-khan-trump-election-00180846> - In September 2024, London Mayor Sadiq Khan warned that President Trump's re-election could have global repercussions, stating that the rest of the world is watching. Khan expressed concerns about the impact of Trump's policies on democracy, women's rights, and international relations, urging Americans to consider the broader implications of their electoral choices.
5. <https://www.politico.eu/article/london-mayor-sadiq-khan-blasts-racism-hatred-donald-trump-election-victory/> - Following Donald Trump's election victory, London Mayor Sadiq Khan criticised the rise of racism and hatred, expressing concerns about the impact on democracy and women's rights. Khan emphasised London's commitment to being a city for everyone, highlighting values such as pro-women, pro-diversity, pro-climate, and pro-human rights.
6. <https://www.standard.co.uk/news/politics/sadiq-khan-london-donald-trump-win-us-election-democracy-b1192298.html> - After Donald Trump's unexpected return to the White House in November 2024, London Mayor Sadiq Khan expressed that many Londoners were anxious about the outcome. Khan highlighted concerns regarding the implications for democracy, women's rights, international relations, and global issues like climate change, assuring that London would remain a city for everyone, upholding values of diversity and unity.
7. <https://www.standard.co.uk/news/politics/sadiq-khan-donald-trump-second-term-mayor-president-hate-crime-abuse-b1177462.html> - In August 2024, London Mayor Sadiq Khan expressed fears that a second term for President Trump could lead to increased abuse towards him and his family. Reflecting on a previous rise in hate crimes during Trump's first term, Khan stated his determination to continue his work despite potential challenges, emphasising the importance of standing up for Londoners.