# Undercover report reveals complex operations and growing influence of the British far right



For over a year, an undercover journalist with the anti-fascist organisation Hope Not Hate infiltrated multiple segments of the British far right, revealing complex insights into extremist groups’ operations, motivations, and growing influence. Using the pseudonym Chris, the reporter embedded themselves within nine different far-right factions, ranging from political parties and Holocaust denial circles to organisations promoting race science—a field that claims genetic differences affect intelligence among racial groups.

The project began in late 2022 after the journalist approached Hope Not Hate, a group dedicated to monitoring and campaigning against far-right extremism. Joe Mulhall, head of Hope Not Hate’s research team, and handler Patrik Hermansson guided the undercover operation, meticulously crafting the persona of Chris: a strategy consultant appearance designed to avoid drawing suspicion. Equipped with a concealed camera system, the journalist spent prolonged periods building trust and participating in activities across different groups, from canvassing for far-right parties in Essex to washing up at gatherings of Holocaust deniers.

Throughout the infiltration, the journalist witnessed disturbing expressions of hate and conspiracy theories. In one instance, senior members of the Britain First party denied the Holocaust, claiming Auschwitz was fabricated and gas chambers were only used for delousing purposes. The undercover operative also encountered members of the Traditional Britain Group who espoused theories about racial replacement and government conspiracies driving a “white genocide,” sentiments common among far-right conspiracy theorists during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Despite the abhorrent views, the journalist noted a surprising duality among members: feelings of loneliness and exclusion were widespread, as many joined these groups seeking companionship and community. Long meetings often saw attendees disengaged from ideological discussions, instead valuing socialising and connection.

Of particular concern was the infiltration into spheres influenced by race science and eugenics ideology. The journalist attended the Scandza Forum in Tallinn, Estonia, a large international far-right conference featuring speakers like Jared Taylor, an advocate of white segregation, and Helmuth Nyborg, a Danish academic presenting on genetic theories of intelligence and demographics. At the conference, the journalist met Matthew Frost (a pseudonym “Matt Archer”), an organiser of the online magazine Aporia, which promotes “human biodiversity” (HBD)—a term used by race science advocates to claim genetic determinism of intelligence and behaviour among races.

Frost revealed funding support from a mysterious American tech billionaire, and his organisation was linked to the Human Diversity Foundation, successor to the infamous Pioneer Fund. Founded in the 1930s, the Pioneer Fund supported Nazi racial propaganda and eugenics projects; it had largely disappeared but appears now to have rebranded and adapted under new management. Frost himself described his mission as pursuing “truth” despite mainstream rejection of race science, and outlined plans for racial “remigration” involving mass deportations, expressing enthusiasm for radical political changes in Europe.

The infiltration exposed the far right’s increasing sophistication, international connections, and influence. Far-right activists appear emboldened following political shifts such as the election of hard-right MPs in the UK and right-wing victories in continental Europe. Their strategies include co-opting mainstream concerns—such as declining birth rates and demographic changes—to subtly introduce extremist racial theories into broader political discourse.

From secret meetings in British pubs to international conferences in Tallinn, the undercover operation unveiled a far-right movement that blends conspiracy, racial pseudoscience, and social isolation, underpinned by well-funded networks seeking to expand their reach. The journalist’s experiences underscore the complexities and contradictions within these movements, including the blurred lines between friendship and betrayal inherent in undercover work.

This detailed account is adapted from "Year of the Rat: Undercover in the British Far Right," published by Chatto & Windus, providing an unprecedented glimpse into extremist subcultures and their evolving role within contemporary society.

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

## Bibliography

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