# Communities Secretary Michael Gove criticises pro-Palestinian marches for failing to address anti-Jewish sentiment



Communities Secretary Michael Gove has accused organizers of pro-Palestinian marches of not doing enough to curb anti-Jewish messages among some demonstrators. Speaking at a Jewish community center, Gove addressed a rise in antisemitism in the UK, citing historical precedents where antisemitism has signaled broader societal decline.

Gove stated, “The organizers of these marches could do everything in their power to stop that. They don’t,” referring to symbols of hate observed during recent protests. Seven arrests were made at a protest in central London, among them a man carrying a coffin with offensive language.

The Communities Secretary emphasized that antisemitism is a “common currency of hate” uniting extremist ideologies across the political spectrum. Reports indicate a record high of 4,103 antisemitic incidents in the UK last year, with two-thirds occurring after Hamas' October 7 attack on Israel.

Deputy Labour leader Angela Rayner echoed Gove’s sentiments, condemning antisemitic hate and advocating for stronger measures against it. Concurrently, Liberal Democrats emphasized combating extremism in all forms while criticizing the current government's approach.

The speech comes ahead of a report by Lord Walney, recommending new measures to tackle disruptive and potentially extremist protests. Gove has also urged the House of Lords to pass a bill to prevent public bodies from boycotting businesses linked to Israel.