# Nigel Farage under fire for controversial comments on British Muslims, as PM Sunak proposes national service reintroduction for 18-year-olds



Nigel Farage has been criticized for comments made during a Sky News interview on May 26, 2024, where he accused British Muslims of not sharing "British values." This statement was part of Farage's campaign for the Reform UK party, aiming to capitalize on the Conservative Party's poor polling performance, with Reform UK polling at 14%. Farage's remarks were made in a discussion with presenter Sir Trevor Phillips, who challenged the claims, particularly the assertion that 46 percent of British Muslims support Hamas. The comments prompted strong reactions, with Labour peer Baroness Ayesha Hazarika describing Farage as “a nasty race baiting character.”

In other political news, Prime Minister Rishi Sunak announced a plan to reintroduce national service for 18-year-olds, giving them the choice of a full-time armed forces placement or weekend community service. The proposal, intended to foster a "renewed sense of pride," was met with criticism from Labour and various commentators who labeled it as unfunded and burdensome to the military. Veteran Justin Crump expressed concerns about the practical implications, calling the plans “ill-thought-through.” The announcement coincides with current political maneuvers ahead of the upcoming general election in July 2024.