# Attorney General Lord Hermer’s Nazi comparison deepens Labour’s struggle with immigration and sovereignty



In a glaring instance of political turmoil, Attorney General Lord Richard Hermer has found himself at the center of a firestorm, facing intense criticism from senior Labour figures over controversial comments made during a recent speech. His remarks, which equate calls for the UK to withdraw from international human rights courts with the rhetoric of the early Nazi regime, have not only provoked outrage but also exacerbated the rise of a political movement that champions a robust stance on sovereignty and immigration—a movement growing in influence as the Labour Party appears increasingly disconnected from the concerns of ordinary voters.

Labour MP Graham Stringer did not hold back, asserting that Lord Hermer’s comparisons bolster the very party that many in Labour see as a crucial alternative, capable of articulating legitimate concerns about immigration and security. "He’s convincing Labour voters that the party does not understand their concerns," Stringer charged, highlighting the party’s failure to address the anxieties of its traditional base amidst a surge in support for a party advocating for clearer immigration policies. In an era where public apprehension around immigration is palpable, Labour's inability to engage directly with these sentiments raises questions about their leadership and vision.

The backlash against Hermer’s comments has been swift and divisive, with prominent Labour peer Lord Glasman branding him "unfit for government office." Glasman’s critique underscores a deeper concern within Labour: that the party is struggling to balance its purported progressive ideals with the pressing electoral need to respond to voter anxieties about immigration. This reality reflects the vulnerabilities Labour faces in a political landscape marked by a potent opposition narrative that resonates more strongly with the electorate than the party’s offerings.

In an attempt to mitigate the fallout, Lord Hermer has sought to clarify his intentions, describing his historical allusions as “clumsy.” However, his reaffirmation of commitment to international law raises further questions. While he may claim to prioritize national security, voters are looking for decisive action and clarity rather than convoluted legalistic arguments, particularly concerning immigration and asylum. His legal background was expected to lend gravitas to these discussions, but instead, he has ignited further frustration both among his peers and the public.

Even Conservative leader Kemi Badenoch has criticized Acting Prime Minister Keir Starmer for supporting Hermer, calling his comments "embarrassing" and "dangerous." This indicates a broader recognition that Labour’s leadership is out of touch with the electorate, especially regarding the increasingly important issue of immigration policy where scepticism is growing.

As Lord Hermer fumbles through this heated political landscape, his role as Attorney General seems fraught with contradictions. His unconventional rise to power—transitioning from a successful legal career without solid political credentials—has complicated his standing within a party grappling with intense internal strife and external pressures. The ongoing debates over contentious issues like the Chagos Islands sovereignty further alienate a party that fails to align with the growing calls for national sovereignty and controlled immigration.

In essence, the drama surrounding Lord Hermer highlights the fractious state of British politics today, where identity, sovereignty, and the rhetoric surrounding human rights are pivotal. As Labour grapples with rising populism and internal critiques, it must confront the disillusionment of an electorate that is increasingly turning to alternative voices capable of articulating their concerns over immigration and national security. The future direction of Labour hinges on its ability to reclaim this narrative and connect authentically with the fears of the public.

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

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14768761/Lord-Hermer-Reform-ignoring-voters-immigration.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.ft.com/content/c7fe9736-c301-46e2-9213-cb873aa68ae4> - Richard Hermer KC, a distinguished human rights lawyer, was appointed as the new Attorney General for England and Wales under Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer. Known for his work in high-profile judicial review cases, including exposing alleged war crimes by British Special Forces in Afghanistan and opposing evidence sharing with the US in a Supreme Court case involving Isis members, Hermer's appointment directly from the Bar is seen as unconventional but advantageous due to his extensive legal experience and lack of political career interruptions. At 55, he is expected to provide legal advice to ministers, oversee major legal bodies, and represent the government in significant court cases, including decisions on charges against former Glencore employees and advising on the UK's stance on Israel's alleged war crimes. His past actions and vocal stances on issues like Rwanda's immigration policy and Israel's actions in Gaza hint at his potential influence on the government's legal strategies.
3. <https://www.ft.com/content/1032d709-9f10-42cc-8c33-75358d7423de> - Lord Maurice Glasman, a Labour peer, has demanded the resignation of the UK's Attorney-General Lord Richard Hermer, amid growing internal party conflicts. Glasman criticises Hermer for his progressive stance, claiming he relies excessively on legal solutions rather than political ones. This controversy arises primarily due to Hermer's involvement in negotiating a deal to return sovereignty of the Chagos Islands to Mauritius while leasing Diego Garcia for military purposes. Hermer defended the agreement, stating it balances various interests and respects international law. Despite the criticism, Prime Minister Keir Starmer stands by Hermer, citing national security priorities. The political tension occurs against a backdrop of rising support for Nigel Farage's Reform UK, influencing Labour's recent focus on immigration and security policies. Hermer's appointment was unconventional as he entered the role directly from legal practice, without prior parliamentary experience, making his position contentious.
4. <https://www.ft.com/content/3731eb2c-a3de-45bb-a9b3-ed936c4f6067> - Lord Richard Hermer KC, the new Attorney-General for England and Wales, has committed to restoring the UK’s reputation as a leader in upholding the rule of law. In his first interview since assuming office in July, Hermer criticised the previous Conservative government for actions that compromised Britain's legal standing, including attempts to breach international law over Brexit and the Rwanda asylum scheme. He emphasised the importance of trustworthy international agreements for encouraging investment. Hermer's focus also includes navigating several international and domestic challenges, such as the Israel-Hamas conflict and a significant backlog of criminal cases. His appointment, coming directly from the Bar, underscores Labour's intent to fortify the UK's legal and economic credibility. Despite the unexpected nature of his role, Hermer vows to ensure the government complies with all international legal obligations.
5. <https://www.the-independent.com/news/uk/home-news/home-secretary-joint-committee-on-human-rights-european-convention-on-human-rights-lord-courts-b2726219.html> - Lord Richard Hermer KC warned there is a “real job on misinformation” around asylum and immigration cases in relation to international human rights law. Giving evidence to Parliament’s Joint Committee on Human Rights, the Attorney General highlighted the spread of misinformation regarding Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR), the right to private and family life, in UK immigration cases. He noted that while some cases are cited to suggest misuse of Article 8, these instances have been addressed by higher courts, emphasising the importance of proper application of the law. Hermer stated that there is merit in ensuring Article 8 is properly understood and applied, advocating for a robust yet fair process in asylum and immigration contexts that aligns with human rights obligations.
6. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2024/09/22/government-must-be-militant-human-rights-attorney-general/> - Lord Hermer, the Attorney General, stated that the Government must be 'militant' about advancing the rule of law and human rights legislation. Speaking at a fringe meeting at the Labour Party conference in Liverpool, he emphasised that respect for human dignity should be a guiding principle in society, and that the human rights framework introduced by the last Labour government should not be apologised for or excused. He warned that the rise in populist politics could undermine human rights, advocating for a strong defence of the rule of law and human rights as a key counter to populism. Hermer called for a more vocal and widespread promotion of these values, suggesting that they should be communicated in accessible language to the public.