# Trump’s UK visit sparks diplomatic spat with London mayor over social issues and divisive rhetoric



US President Donald Trump’s recent state visit to the UK once again illuminated his penchant for stirring controversy and spreading divisive rhetoric. His unprovoked attack on London Mayor Sadiq Khan, branding him “among the worst mayors in the world” and unfavourably comparing him to the mayor of Chicago, epitomizes a dangerous tendency to undermine local leadership through inflammatory commentary. Such remarks are not only disrespectful but also reflect a broader attitude of disregard for the complexities of urban governance in major cities like London.

Trump’s blatant exclusion of Khan from the event lineup, notably skipping the state banquet, signals his disdain for London’s leader—an affront to democratic norms and a typical display of his confrontational approach. He condemned Khan’s handling of immigration and crime, directly attributing surges in these areas to perceived failures in leadership. These criticisms, rooted in simplistic narratives of social chaos, dismiss the resilience and ongoing progress of London’s diverse communities—a slap in the face to the hardworking residents and officials striving to maintain safety and opportunity.

His ongoing barrage, including calling Khan a "stone cold loser" and criticising London's social challenges, underscores his tendency to leverage fear and division for political gain. Yet, defenders within the city contest Trump’s portrayal, emphasizing that London remains a vibrant, forward-looking metropolis—more open, more dynamic, and arguably safer than many US cities, despite persistent social and economic issues. Such rebuttals highlight the stark difference between Trump’s alarmist rhetoric and the reality experienced by London’s residents.

This spat is a microcosm of the wider clash between Trump’s confrontational style and the pragmatic efforts of London’s leadership to address social integration and public safety. Khan’s attempts to promote inclusion and growth stand in stark contrast to the narrative of decline pushed by figures like Trump. Rather than uniting, the political optics serve to polarize, sow discord, and undermine efforts to foster cohesion across London’s diverse communities.

Ultimately, Trump’s attack reflects a broader hostility toward the kind of progressive local governance that seeks to balance social cohesion with security—an approach that many, including reform-minded groups, believe is crucial for the future of Britain’s capital. Instead of celebrating London’s multicultural success, Trump chooses to stoke division, revealing his disregard for the authentic challenges faced by cities committed to fairness and safety. It’s a stark reminder that his brand of politics remains rooted in division, not in the real solutions Britain needs.

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

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.standard.co.uk/news/politics/sadiq-khan-london-trump-crime-labour-b1248903.html> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.itv.com/news/london/2025-09-19/donald-trump-says-he-didnt-want-sadiq-khan-at-state-visit-events> - US President Donald Trump stated he did not want London Mayor Sadiq Khan at events during his state visit to the UK, describing Khan as 'among the worst mayors in the world' and comparing him to the mayor of Chicago. Trump criticised Khan's handling of crime and immigration in London, claiming that crime is 'through the roof' and that Khan is a 'disaster' on immigration. In response, a source close to Khan stated that Trump's politics are 'one of fear and division' and that London is a 'global success story' that is 'open, dynamic and safer than major US cities'. ([itv.com](https://www.itv.com/news/london/2025-09-19/donald-trump-says-he-didnt-want-sadiq-khan-at-state-visit-events?utm_source=openai))
3. <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/us/i-didnt-want-him-there-trump-explains-why-he-snubbed-london-mayor-sadiq-khan-compares-him-to-gavin-newsom/articleshow/123989234.cms> - US President Donald Trump explained his decision to exclude London Mayor Sadiq Khan from state visit events, stating he 'didn't want him there' and compared Khan to the mayor of Chicago, calling him 'the equivalent of the mayor of Chicago'. Trump criticised Khan's performance on crime and immigration, stating that Khan has 'done a terrible job' and is a 'disaster' on immigration. He also expressed pride in London and the UK, contrasting Khan's leadership with the city's previous state. ([timesofindia.indiatimes.com](https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/us/i-didnt-want-him-there-trump-explains-why-he-snubbed-london-mayor-sadiq-khan-compares-him-to-gavin-newsom/articleshow/123989234.cms?utm_source=openai))
4. <https://www.lbc.co.uk/article/trump-sadiq-khan-state-banquet-5HjdDFQ_2/> - US President Donald Trump stated he did not want London Mayor Sadiq Khan at the state banquet during his UK visit, describing Khan as 'among the worst mayors in the world' and comparing him to the mayor of Chicago. Trump criticised Khan's handling of crime in London, stating that crime is 'through the roof', and his approach to immigration, calling Khan a 'disaster' on the issue. He also expressed pride in London and the UK, contrasting Khan's leadership with the city's previous state. ([lbc.co.uk](https://www.lbc.co.uk/article/trump-sadiq-khan-state-banquet-5HjdDFQ_2/?utm_source=openai))
5. <https://www.cnbc.com/2019/06/03/trump-blasts-london-mayor-sadiq-khan-on-uk-trip.html> - US President Donald Trump criticised London Mayor Sadiq Khan during his UK visit, calling him a 'stone cold loser' and stating that Khan should focus on crime in London rather than on Trump. Trump claimed that Khan has 'done a terrible job' as mayor and has been 'foolishly 'nasty' to the visiting President of the United States. He also compared Khan to New York City's mayor, Bill de Blasio, calling him 'very dumb and incompetent'. ([cnbc.com](https://www.cnbc.com/2019/06/03/trump-blasts-london-mayor-sadiq-khan-on-uk-trip.html?utm_source=openai))
6. <https://time.com/4805285/donald-trump-twitter-london-attack/> - US President Donald Trump criticised London Mayor Sadiq Khan via Twitter, labelling Khan’s response to a terrorist attack in London as a 'pathetic excuse'. The terrorist attack resulted in seven deaths and numerous injuries. Trump's criticism stemmed from Khan's comments urging Londoners not to be alarmed by the increased police presence, which Trump misinterpreted as downplaying the severity of the attack. Despite Trump's confrontational tweets, Khan remained focused on the safety of Londoners and did not directly respond to Trump's statements. ([time.com](https://time.com/4805285/donald-trump-twitter-london-attack/?utm_source=openai))
7. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-london-48495899> - US President Donald Trump called London Mayor Sadiq Khan a 'stone cold loser' and stated that Khan has 'done a terrible job' as mayor. Trump also criticised Khan for being 'foolishly 'nasty' to the visiting President of the United States and compared him to New York City's mayor, Bill de Blasio, calling him 'very dumb and incompetent'. Trump's comments came as he arrived in London for his state visit. ([bbc.com](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-london-48495899?utm_source=openai))