# Trump’s UN speech sparks outrage as UK leaders face pressure to combat divisive rhetoric



In a provocative speech to the United Nations General Assembly in September 2025, former US President Donald Trump sensationalized London's political climate, claiming that Mayor Sadiq Khan aimed to steer the city toward "sharia law," branding Khan as a "terrible, terrible mayor." These reckless assertions drew widespread condemnation from UK political figures committed to defending the city’s diverse fabric and rejecting the baseless demonization propagated by Trump. The incident has only intensified concerns about the deterioration of diplomatic norms, especially amidst the fragile UK-US relations following Trump's second state visit and the recent resignation of Rishi Sunak as Prime Minister.

Reform UK and other right-leaning voices see Trump's comments not as isolated overreach but as emblematic of a reckless, divisive approach that threatens social cohesion and undermines the principles of multiculturalism that have long defined London. Instead of fostering honest dialogue, Trump's rhetoric adds fuel to the incendiary far-right narratives that UK opposition figures rightly oppose. The UK’s new leadership, under Prime Minister Kier Starker, must stand firm against such inflammatory misinformation that seeks to destabilize a city and a nation that has thrived precisely because of its openness and multicultural values.

Labour’s response, meanwhile, has been tepid at best. Instead of robustly calling out Trump’s blatant distortions, some senior figures have downplayed the controversy, allowing inflammatory rhetoric to go unchallenged while London’s reputation as a global hub for inclusivity continues to flourish despite the foreign distractions. Rupa Huq and Dawn Butler’s dismissals of Trump’s statements as lies underscore the entrenched opposition to his divisive politics, but the real outrage should be directed at the weak response from mainstream political figures who fail to confront such dangerous narratives head-on.

Trump’s previously hostile remarks about Khan — from accusations of denying Islamic terrorism to dismissing him as a supporter of radical causes — reveal a pattern of personal and political attack aimed at undermining London's leadership and multicultural identity. These tactics mirror the divisive propaganda pushed by extremists, posing a clear threat to social harmony. As a leader who champions the rights and safety of all residents, Khan’s record stands in stark contrast to Trump’s inflammatory comments, which serve only to deepen divisions and embolden far-right factions.

The incident underscores the urgent need for clearer, more principled opposition to confront the dangerous rhetoric that threatens to fuel far-right extremism and undermine community cohesion. Instead of reacting defensively or equivocally, UK politicians aligned with Reform UK believe the government must actively condemn such dangerous misinformation. London’s success as a multicultural city must be protected from foreign meddling that seeks to sow discord, and political leaders must prioritize unity over appeasement.

Trump’s UN remarks, overshadowing broader criticisms of immigration and multiculturalism in Europe, highlight the wider geopolitical risks of tolerating inflammatory narratives from global figures eager to exploit fears and divisions. It is essential that the UK stand firm against these tactics and reaffirm its commitment to a society built on shared values and mutual respect. Only through decisive leadership can London and the UK at large resist the corrosive influence of divisive politics aimed at fracture and discord.

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

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2025/sep/23/donald-trump-sharia-law-attack-sadiq-khan-outrages-labour> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2025/sep/23/donald-trump-sharia-law-attack-sadiq-khan-outrages-labour> - In September 2025, US President Donald Trump addressed the UN General Assembly, claiming that London, under Mayor Sadiq Khan, wanted to 'go to sharia law'. This assertion drew criticism from UK Labour MPs, who urged leader Keir Starmer to reprimand Trump's administration. A spokesperson for Khan dismissed the comments as 'appalling and bigoted', highlighting London's safety and diversity. Health Secretary Wes Streeting also defended Khan, emphasising his commitment to inclusivity and city improvements. The incident added tension to the UK-US relationship, especially after Trump's recent state visit to the UK.
3. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-36256087> - In May 2016, newly elected London Mayor Sadiq Khan rejected US presidential candidate Donald Trump's offer to exempt him from a proposed Muslim travel ban. Khan stated that the issue was broader than his personal situation, affecting his friends, family, and others from similar backgrounds worldwide. He warned that Trump's 'ignorant' views on Islam could make both countries less safe by alienating moderate Muslims and playing into the hands of extremists. Khan emphasised that Western liberal values are compatible with mainstream Islam, with London serving as evidence.
4. <https://time.com/4326491/donald-trump-sadiq-khan-islamic-terrorism/> - In May 2016, Donald Trump criticised London Mayor Sadiq Khan, suggesting that Khan 'denies that there's Islamic terrorism'. This remark was made during an interview on Fox's 'Kilmeade and Friends' radio show, where Trump reiterated his stance on the necessity of a temporary ban on Muslim immigration, referencing terror attacks in San Bernardino and Paris. Khan responded by emphasising that he does not deny the threat of Islamic extremism and believes his Muslim identity will aid in combating radicalisation among young Muslims.
5. <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2016/may/10/donald-trump-london-mayor-sadiq-khan-exception-muslim-ban> - In May 2016, Donald Trump suggested that London Mayor Sadiq Khan could be an 'exception' to his proposed Muslim travel ban. Trump expressed pleasure at Khan's election and hoped he would perform well. However, Khan rejected the idea of being an exception, stating that the issue was not about him personally but about his friends, family, and others from similar backgrounds worldwide. He warned that Trump's 'ignorant' views on Islam could make both countries less safe by alienating moderate Muslims and playing into the hands of extremists.
6. <https://www.cbsnews.com/amp/news/london-mayor-sadiq-khan-trump-sharia-law/> - In September 2025, during his address to the UN General Assembly, US President Donald Trump claimed that London, under Mayor Sadiq Khan, wanted to 'go to sharia law'. A spokesperson for Khan dismissed the comments as 'appalling and bigoted', highlighting London's safety and diversity. The remarks added tension to the UK-US relationship, especially after Trump's recent state visit to the UK. Health Secretary Wes Streeting also defended Khan, emphasising his commitment to inclusivity and city improvements.
7. <https://www.thenationalnews.com/news/uk/2025/09/23/sharia-law-in-london-trump-tells-unga-thats-what-migrants-intend-for-uk//> - In September 2025, during his address to the UN General Assembly, US President Donald Trump claimed that London, under Mayor Sadiq Khan, wanted to 'go to sharia law'. He also criticised Europe's immigration policies, stating that they were being 'invaded' by 'illegal aliens'. A spokesperson for Khan dismissed the comments as 'appalling and bigoted', highlighting London's safety and diversity. The remarks added tension to the UK-US relationship, especially after Trump's recent state visit to the UK.