

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – 10 JULY 2026

Holocaust survivors and their descendants criticise the Government's response to their letter about pro-Palestine marches.

More than 40 British survivors and descendants of survivors of the Holocaust have today written to Home Office Minister for Policing and Crime, Sarah Jones MP, criticising that she has completely failed to address the issues that they raised.

They had previously written an open letter to the UK Prime Minister, copied to the Home Secretary and the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police.

The letter criticised statements by Starmer and others that linked recent attacks on Jewish persons and property to pro-Palestine marches. It deplored the instrumentalisation of Jewish safety in order to further repress freedom of speech, protest and assembly.

The letter called on the Prime Minister to promote Jewish safety constructively by publicly acknowledging that Israel is not acting on behalf of all Jews and that its crimes are condemned by many Jewish people in Britain and around the world.

For further information and interview requests contact:

hsdagg@proton.me

+44 7828 528325 NB Message via SMS or WhatsApp before calling

The text of the latest letter is:

Sarah Jones MP
Minister of State for Policing and Crime
2 Marsham Street
London SW1P 4DF
(By email)

10 July 2026

DECS Reference: MIN/1509670/26

Dear Minister,

Thank you for responding on 30 June to the open letter which we, more than 40 Holocaust survivors and descendants of survivors, sent to the Prime Minister, the Home Secretary and the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police on 12 May.

We appreciate that you express your regret that some of us have experienced hostility including offensive and even racist language at protests. However, you fail to mention that this has come not from our fellow pro-Palestine protesters, from whom we have received only goodwill and support, but from the pro-Israel counter-demonstrators. We would welcome it, if you were to acknowledge and address this point.

We are also disappointed that your response, despite its length and detail, completely fails to address the essential messages of our letter, which are summarised as:

- a. Pro-Palestine protests, in which we and many other Jews and persons of Jewish descent participate, do not pose a danger to Jews or to anyone else and cannot be blamed as being a cause of attacks on Jewish persons and property.
- b. Attacks on Jewish people should not be instrumentalised in order to further restrict the right to protest, in particular in relation to Palestine.
- c. Exploitation and prioritisation of concerns for Jewish safety over the safety of other groups lead to resentment against Jews and antisemitism.
- d. The Jewish community is not one homogeneous bloc. Many Jews, including those in our group, condemn Israel's crimes in Gaza and elsewhere from a Jewish perspective.
- e. The real danger of attacks on Jewish people in the UK, wholly inexcusable as these are, stems from the anger caused by Israel's crimes against the Palestinian people and others in the region.
- f. We therefore urge you and your colleagues in government to publicly acknowledge that Israel is not acting on behalf of all Jews and that its crimes are condemned by many Jewish people in Britain and around the world, even in Israel itself.

On the contrary, the tone and content of your letter reinforce the government's narrative that pro-Palestine protests pose a threat and should be restricted and even banned.

The only partial acknowledgement of our message comes in the first paragraph on the second page, which refers to the banning of marches. However, this too fails to address our concerns.

- a. We fundamentally reject the premise for a ban, ie that the marches are dangerous and that they lead to attacks on Jews.
- b. There is fear not just of bans, but also about the imposition of severe conditions as well as restrictive and aggressive policing.
- c. While you assure us that a ban would be exceptional and would require the approval of the Home Secretary, we note that the PM has himself suggested banning demonstrations and the government's reviewer of terrorism legislation has urged a "moratorium" on demonstrations.

We would be grateful if you could now respond to our original letter by addressing the specific issues that we raised.

Yours sincerely,

Holocaust Survivors

Doctor Agnes Kory, Child survivor of the Holocaust in Hungary

Stephen Kapos, Child survivor of the Holocaust in Hungary

Descendants of Holocaust Survivors

Mark Etkind, Son of a Holocaust survivor from Poland

Carolyn Gelenter, Daughter of a Holocaust survivor from Poland

Professor Emerita Miriam David, Daughter of Holocaust survivors from Germany and Hungary

Ann Jungmann, Daughter of Holocaust survivors from Germany

Daniel Vulliamy, Son of a Holocaust survivor from Austria

Professor Emeritus Richard Wistreich, Son of a Holocaust survivor from Poland

Rachel Richardson, Granddaughter of a Holocaust survivor from Germany

Professor Emeritus Robert Reiner, Son of Holocaust survivors from Hungary

Erica Levy, Daughter of a Holocaust survivor from Germany

Miranda Pinch, Daughter of a Holocaust survivor from Czechoslovakia

Professor Yosefa Loshitzky, Daughter of survivors of the Holocaust in Poland

A M Poppy, Daughter of a Holocaust survivor from the Netherlands

Colonel (Retd) Christopher Romberg, Son of a Holocaust survivor from Austria

Peter Frankental, Son of a Holocaust survivor from Poland

Charlotte Reynolds, Daughter of a Holocaust survivor from Austria

Sylvia Finzi, Daughter of Holocaust survivors from Italy and Germany

Professor William Schabas, Son of a Holocaust survivor from Poland

Elizabeth Morley, Daughter of a Holocaust survivor from Hungary

Sonja Linden, Daughter of a Holocaust survivor from Germany

Vicky Moller, Daughter of a Holocaust survivor from Czechoslovakia

Talora Leigh, Great-granddaughter of a Holocaust survivor from Poland

Tony Whiteson, Son of a Holocaust survivor from Poland

Karel Michael Schling, Son of a Holocaust survivor from Czechoslovakia
Eva Turner, Daughter of a Holocaust survivor from Czechoslovakia
Perdita Heller, Daughter of a Holocaust survivor from Austria
Professor Anne Karpf, Daughter of Holocaust survivors from Poland
Helen Martins, Daughter of Holocaust survivors from Germany
Anthony Gimpel, Son of Holocaust survivors from Germany and Austria
Oliver Rakocovic, Son of a Holocaust survivor from Poland
Mike Brecher, Son of a Holocaust survivor from Germany
Andrew Feinstein, Son of a Holocaust survivor from Austria
Amanda Sebestyen, Granddaughter of a Holocaust survivor from Hungary
Glenn Bassett, Grandson of Holocaust survivors from Austria
Peter Perrett, Son of a Holocaust survivor from Austria
Caroline Hearst, Daughter of Holocaust survivors from Germany
Peter Hall, Son of Holocaust survivors from Austria
Doctor Mark Smith, Son of a Holocaust survivor from Germany
Charlotte Monro, Daughter of a Holocaust survivor from Czechoslovakia
Helen Marks, Daughter of a Holocaust survivor from Poland
Angie Eden, Daughter of a Holocaust survivor from Austria
Doctor Diana Warner, Daughter of a Holocaust survivor from Germany
Lola Karpf, Granddaughter of Holocaust survivors from Poland
Sarah Jones MP
Minister of State for Policing and Crime
2 Marsham Street
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