

URGENT ACTION

ARRESTS AT PEACEFUL PROTESTS CONTINUE

On June 15, the UK Court of Appeal upheld the proscription of Palestine Action, overturning the High Court's February ruling that it was unlawful. The activist group, 'Defend our Juries' (DoJ) subsequently continued its campaign against the proscription, with supporters making statements online and in person that they are members of Palestine Action, and in some cases encouraging others to join. On July 5, 14 people were arrested under Terrorism legislation after staging a symbolic protest in London to mark one year since the proscription of Palestine Action. On July 30, a further 152 people were arrested at a DoJ protest in London, with 134 arrested for expressing support for a proscribed organization under Section 12 of the Terrorism Act 2000.

TAKE ACTION:

- Write a letter to the government official(s) listed. Use the sample letter below as a guide or use your own words.
- [Click here](#) to report your action(s) on **Sixth UA 77.25**. We share this number with the officials we are trying to persuade.

Director of Public Prosecutions of England and Wales, Steven Parkinson
Email: enquiries@cps.gov.uk
Director of Public Prosecutions for Northern Ireland, Stephen Herron
Email: info@ppsni.gov.uk
The Lord Advocate, Rt Hon Ruth Charteris KC
Email: LordAdvocate@gov.scot

Send a copy of your letter to the address below
CC: United Kingdom Embassy in the United States
Ambassador Sir Christian Turner KCMG
3100 Massachusetts Avenue, NW,
Washington DC 20008
Twitter/X: @UKinUSA

Dear Directors of Public Prosecutions for England and Wales, Northern Ireland and Lord Advocate,

Following the UK Court of Appeal's June 15 ruling that overturned the High Court's February decision that the proscription of Palestine Action was unlawful, grassroots campaigning group **Defend our Juries (DoJ)** has continued its campaign against the proscription. Their actions include peaceful protests and more recently, supporters publicly stating that they were members of Palestine Action and, in some cases, encouraging others to join. More peaceful actions by DoJ are expected ahead of November 4-5 when the Supreme Court will hear the appeal against the proscription.

On July 30, 134 people were arrested under Section 12 of the Terrorism Act 2000 for professing to be members of Palestine Action. On July 5, 14 activists arrested under the same legislation, after they staged a protest inviting police officers to join Palestine Action. Since the ban against 'Palestine Action' came into effect on July 5, 2025, over 3500 arrests of peaceful protesters have taken place across the country simply for their engagement in acts of peaceful protest opposing the proscription. Criminalizing speech in this context is only permitted when it incites violence, hatred, or discrimination. Expressing support for Palestine Action, professing membership, or inviting support for the group does not in itself meet this threshold.

I urge you to uphold the UK's human rights commitments by dropping the charges and not pursuing prosecutions against all those who have participated in peaceful protests in support of 'Palestine Action'.

Yours sincerely,

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

‘Defend our Juries’ is an activist-led, UK-based group that has made clear it neither promotes nor endorses violence. Since July 2025, they have organized multiple mass actions of peaceful disobedience expressing opposition to the proscription of ‘Palestine Action’.

Peaceful protests were organized since the start of the judicial review of the UK government’s proscription of ‘Palestine Action’ as a ‘terrorist group’, which started in November 2025 and then continued December 2, 2025. Several other protests and mass actions were organized throughout 2026, including after June 15, 2026 when the Court of Appeal ruled that the Government’s decision to proscribe Palestine Action as a ‘terrorist organization’ was lawful. This decision overturned the previous ruling by the High Court in February 2026 which found that the proscription was unlawful. Since then, on July 30, 2026, the UK’s Supreme Court granted permission to Palestine Action to appeal the proscription, and the case will be heard on November 4 and 5, 2026.

Most of the protests organized by DoJ consisted of people holding signs stating ‘I oppose genocide. I support Palestine Action’. Following the decision of the Court of Appeal in June 2026, DoJ continued their campaigning opposing the proscription with supporters making statements online and in person that they are members of Palestine Action, and in some cases encouraging others to join. Initially, the majority of the protesters holding signs were arrested and almost a third charged under section 13 of the Terrorism Act 2000. This criminal provision brings risk of up to six months in prison. Since July 2026, the majority of protesters were arrested under section 12 of the Terrorism Act 2000, which carries a penalty of up to 14 years in prison.

The arrests of peaceful protesters for displaying the message ‘I Oppose Genocide. I Support Palestine Action’ violates UK’s international obligations to protect freedom of expression and peaceful assembly. Amnesty International also considers that ‘professing’ to be a member of Palestine Action, or inviting support for the group should not be a criminal offence.

Under the international human rights framework to which the UK is a party, state interference with the rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly must be lawful and be a necessary and proportionate means of achieving a legitimate aim. Expression of support for a proscribed organization could only meet this threshold if that expression were likely to induce its audience to partake in violence, and to do so imminently. As part of this assessment, the particular facts of the expression, the proscription and the nature of the organization in question must also be considered. In this instance, it cannot be justified to treat expression of support for Palestine Action as inherently and uniformly incitement. There is no reasonable basis to consider participants at ‘Defend our Juries’ actions as inciting violence, hatred or discrimination.

PREFERRED LANGUAGE TO ADDRESS TARGET: English or your own language.

PLEASE TAKE ACTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE UNTIL: February 20, 2027

NAME AND PRONOUN: Peaceful protestors challenging the ‘Palestine Action’ ban (All)

LINK TO PREVIOUS UA: <https://www.amnestyusa.org/urgent-actions/united-kingdom-over-500-further-arrests-at-peaceful-protests/>