

Extremist Symbols and Flags

A person commits an offence contrary to the Terrorism Act 2000 if in a public place they display an article, such as a flag, in such a way or in such circumstances as to arouse reasonable suspicion that they are a member or supporter of a proscribed organisation; however, each case will depend upon its own particular facts including any supporting evidence.

We recognise that activity such as this can cause concerns within communities, and the Police Service is committed to disrupting and dealing with any groups or individuals who aim to cause harm or spread fear and hatred, no matter what their ideological or political motive. Whilst holding extreme views is not in itself unlawful, those who seek to create division within our communities and whose protests cross over into unlawful intimidation, violence and public disorder will be dealt with robustly.

This document is not intended to be an exhaustive list of all extremist symbols that may be seen within the UK. Instead it identifies a select number of flags and iconography of terrorist groups known to have some material impact on the UK and its population at this time. This includes designated terrorist organisations with no footprint or aspirations within the UK but which British individuals may have travelled to support, or provided financial assistance. The presentation also provides symbols linked to groups with far-right and far-left viewpoints which are not proscribed; these are provided **for information only** and should not be treated as illegal.

If unsure whether a flag or symbol relates to a proscribed organisation, Partners are asked to approach Counter Terrorism Policing for further advice.

ISLAMIST TERRORSIM



Hezbollah

Some UK MPs are calling for the proscription of the political wing of the Lebanese Islamist group Hezbollah.

The militant wing of the group is classed as a separate organisation, and is banned.

The official position of the British government and the Labour Party is not to extend the ban. Both the militant and political wing use the same flag.



Daesh

Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) / Islamic State of al-Sham (ISIS) / Islamic State (IS)



Al-Qaida

- 1) Afghan Core
- 2) Al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula (AQ-AP)
- 3) Al-Qaida in Iraq
- 4) Al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb (AQ-M)

ISLAMIST EXTREMIST MEDIA

Disclaimer: Possessing information likely to be useful to a terrorist (Section 58 Terrorism Act 2000) including material that is viewed repeatedly, streamed online, downloaded, stored on a computer, saved on a separate device or printed off as a hard copy is an offence carrying a maximum sentence of up to 15 years' imprisonment. Partners are asked not to conduct independent research into any of the materials or titles listed.



Al Hayat Media Centre

ISIL's media arm



Rumiyah

ISIL's online propaganda and recruitment magazine



Dabiq

ISIL's online propaganda and recruitment magazine



Inspire

Al-Qaida's online propaganda and recruitment magazine



'Return of Khilafah'

Any reference to the return of the khilafah (caliphate) is likely to represent an extremist mindset

Islamist Terrorism: International

Groups which do not currently have a UK footprint but which have attracted UK-based individuals to join, travel overseas or provide financial support.



Boko Haram

Nigerian Salafist group



Lashkar-e-Tayyiba

Kashmiri militant group



Jabhat al Nusra

Also known as Jabhat Fateh al-Sham; joined with Hayat Tahrir al Sham. Al-Qaida affiliate.



Al Shabaab

Somali militant Islamic group



Harkat Ul-Mujahideen

Linked to Al-Qaida



Jamia'ah al-Lislamiyah al-Musallaha / Groupe Islamique Armé

Algerian Islamic group



Abu Sayyaf

ISIL Philippines Province



Taliban



Taliban

Islamist Terrorism: International

Flags on this slide should not be confused with the Shahada
(see below)



Abu Sayyaf



Jabhat al-Nusra

This is the Shahada.

This flag has been used by various Islamic groups around the world and does not relate to one organisation or to a terrorist group.

The flag depicts the Shahada, which is the Islamic Creed. Displaying it is not a cause for concern.

The flag of Saudi Arabia also features the Shahada.



The flag is often mistaken for the flags of Islamist extremist groups, who often use part or all of it in their iconography.

The Shahada is the basic statement of the Islamic faith and the first of the Five Pillars of Islam.

"There is no God but Allah, and Muhammad is his messenger."

KURDISH GROUPS



PKK / Kurdish Workers' Party / KG / KADEK

Kurdish Marxist militia involved in an armed conflict for independence against the Turkish state, other Kurdish factions and against Daesh. Proscribed in the UK.

YPG / People's Protection Units*

The PYD's armed wing, regarded as so close to the PKK as to be almost a subordinate entity. An ally to coalition forces fighting Daesh. Considered a terrorist organisation by Turkey but not proscribed in the UK.



Peshmerga*

Iraqi Kurdistan army. The Peshmerga are not a proscribed organisation in the UK.

* Whilst these groups are not proscribed in the UK, they are involved in active combat. If an individual is in possession of one of these flags Partners should be aware of the risk that they may wish to travel to a war zone to join the group.

FIGHTING DAESH

Extreme Right Wing



National Action

Neo-Nazi organisation, also known as Scottish Dawn and Blood & Soil



Combat 18*

Neo-Nazi organisation, also known as C18 and Blood & Honour



Generation Identity (GI)*

White nationalist identitarian movement



Pegida*

"Patriotic Europeans Against the Islamisation of the West". A nationalist, anti-Islam, far-right political movement



English Defence League*

EDL. Far-right street protest movement, focusing on opposition to what it considers to be a spread of Islamism



Britain First*

Far-right and ultranationalist British political organisation

* Not currently proscribed in the UK.

And Far Right

Domestic Extremism



Animal Liberation Front*

Engages in direct action in pursuit of animal rights



Antifa*

Anti-Fascist group



Anonymous*

An international network of hactivists



Hunt Saboteur Association*

Uses direct action to stop fox hunting

* Not currently proscribed in the UK.