

It is time that the media described the fascists in the...

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Suella Braverman, who quite extraordinarily is our Home Secretary, spoke at the Conservative Party conference yesterday. She said that it was her dream to see a plane with refugees on board leave the UK for Rwanda.

She said that she wanted this to happen by Christmas, although she doubted that it would.

She made these comments with a big smile on her face: the gloating of a bully was very obviously on display.

But bullying is an insufficient description of this behaviour. She wants to deliberately use the power of the state to victimise and then physically punish a group - those who arrive without prior permission in the UK- to advance her political goals.

This is illegal. Anyone has the legal right to arrive in the UK without permission and apply for asylum. We lost the legal right to return them to an EU country from which they might have come with Brexit. They always have the right to apply for asylum now.

This is racist. The policy is specifically targeted on these grounds.

And it is through its identification of the 'unrewarding other' quite specifically fascist.

The UK media will describe politicians, like Le Pen in France, as 'far-right'. But Braverman is at least as far-right. She is openly fascist.

The Tories loved her comments, of course. Which says all that needs to be known about them.

It is time that we recognised that we have fascists in government, and Braverman is one of them. Then we can address and talk about the issue. The media can no longer pretend this is not the case and be credible. Reality, integrity and honesty demands that they describe these Tories as what they are. And that is not just far-right, although they are that. They should be described as the fascists they really are.