

Farage wants to tear us apart

Published: February 23, 2026, 8:04 am

Let's stop pretending that Rupert Lowe's Restore Britain Party and Nigel Farage's Reform UK are running different agendas. It is already clear that they co-exist to simultaneously fuel the rightward shift towards fascism in the UK.

A week after Lowe's promise to deport hundreds of thousands of people a year, Reform is now promising to deport 288,000 a year (a curiously precise number) with five flights a day planned to deport people from this country to destinations unnamed and with no certainty that they would be granted the right to land.

As [The Guardian](#) notes this morning:

Reform UK would create an ICE-style agency dedicated to deporting hundreds of thousands of people, as well as terminating the status of those with indefinite leave to remain (ILR), the party will say.

It would also ban the conversion of churches into mosques and fund a radical expansion of stop and search, the party's new home affairs spokesperson, Zia Yusuf, will also say in a speech on Monday. The deradicalisation programme Prevent would also have its mandate redrawn to focus on Islamist extremism.

So:

- * We would get our own Gestapo, because ICE behaves in that fashion in the USA.
- * We will have a "hostile environment" for all migrants, including those legally settled here, and so of their children who were born here and are automatically British citizens.
- * We will have legalised violence imposed on anyone the state presumes to be an enemy, because we can be quite sure that this will not only be migrants or people from ethnic minorities: this will be rule by terror. Anyone else that Farage's state might decide to target will also be in their sightlines. Think the LGBTQ+ community, trade unionists, awkward academics, bloggers they do not like, anyone whose face "does not fit", those with disabilities and those who are neurodivergent, and more.

- * We will get Christianity imposed by law.
- * We will have full-blown fascism.
- * And, of course, [we will have an economic meltdown](#), as none of this is possible without that meltdown happening.

So what are the mainstream parties saying in response? According to The Guardian:

Labour said the plans were divisive and showed that Reform was planning “to deport people who have followed the rules, worked hard and built their lives here – our friends, neighbours and colleagues”.

The Labour party’s chair, Anna Turley, said the policies were “a direct attack on settled families and fundamentally un-British”. She added: “Britain is a proud, tolerant and diverse nation, which stands in opposition to the kind of divisive politics stoked by Reform.”

This makes me very angry.

These plans aren't best described as "divisive". Nor are they about "following the rules". And neither do we just need to say we "stand in opposition to divisive policies". This is all just pathetically "nice". It's almost as if a Labour Party that appointed Shabana Mahmood as Home Secretary is, in reality, happy for this to happen. That's because if it were serious in its opposition to Reform it would be saying that Reform is planning state terrorism against large parts of the UK population, and it is planning authoritarianism, and it is doing so in a way that will cost lives and livelihoods whilst the well-being of millions will be destroyed by the politics of hate that Farage is proposing.

This is not the time for pussy-footing as if Farage is a Tory.

This is the time for calling out fascism and the stark ugliness of what is being proposed here when what is planned is the destruction of well-being of people, communities, ways of life and, quite candidly, this country as it has always been - which is a small island state that has always offered a welcome to people coming and going, adding value when they decide to stay and make this their home, in all the rich diversity that we have to offer. Literally, what Farage is planning is to tear us apart. When will Labour, as the government, say that?