

The migrant speaks

Published: February 12, 2026, 8:53 am

Sir Jim Ratcliffe, the chemical tycoon, billionaire, Manchester United co-owner and one of the wealthiest people supposedly in Britain, is under fire after saying Britain has been 'colonised' by immigrants.

As [he put it](#):

You can't afford ... you can't have an economy with 9 million people on benefits and huge levels of immigrants coming in. The UK is being colonised by immigrants, really, isn't it?

Three things.

First, Ratcliffe left Britain some time ago. He lives as a tax exile and migrant in Monaco. The irony of that should not be ignored. Apparently, the rich can be mobile. No one else may be.

Second, if there are nine million people in the UK on benefits, it is because of the massive wealth inequality in the UK. Ratcliffe has created this problem. He could call for higher taxation to help solve it.

Third, I wonder how many of those Ratcliffe is abusing support Manchester United, and how many around the world will be alienated from doing so as a result of his racist comment? This feels like a [Gerald Ratner moment](#).

Ratcliffe reveals his staggering level of indifference, naivete or stupidity with these comments.

For once, Starmer made the right reaction. Farage could not help but jump in with his own vile comment, based on the politics of hate, division and racism, which he has made his only speciality:



...

Britain has undergone unprecedented mass immigration that has changed the character of many areas in our country.

Page 1/2

Labour may try to ignore that but Reform won't.

We need a politics for people, based on a politics of care, to fund the future.

