

# Oxford Union invites banned anti-Islam activist

*With the news that the Oxford Union had invited Anjem Choudary to speak (closely followed by Trinity College Dublin putting such restrictions on Maryam Namazie that she was effectively barred) I know certain people wrote letters and e-mails of protest to the University. This is not the most obvious effect – but I think it is a brave and intelligent one.*

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In one of her first acts as President of the Oxford Union, Olivia Merrett has invited American author and leader of the group 'Jihadi Watch' Robert Spencer to take part in next term's 'This House Believes Radicalisation is Born at Home' debate, along with the radical Islamist preacher Anjem Choudary.

Robert Spencer, who also co-founded the group 'Stop Islamization of America' (SIOA), is banned from entering the UK, following the Home Office's 2013 decision that his visit would not be ["foster hatred which might lead to inter-community violence"](#).

The ban was issued after he was invited to speak at an EDL rally in Woolwich, where drummer Lee Rigby was killed. At around the same time, Anjem Choudary infamously