# Why We Should Not Heed Ilhan Omar's Call for a Special Envoy to Fight 'Islamophobia'

**by Hugh Fitzgerald**



**Never mind that the very term "Islamophobia"** is used to silence all legitimate criticism of Islam. Such criticism is said to be based on an "irrational hatred" (a phobia) of Islam and of Muslims, but many of us believe that anyone who studies both the text of the Qur'an, and the observable behavior of Muslims toward non-Muslims both now, and during the past 1400 years, has good grounds for alarm about the Muslims in our midst.

Ilhan Omar's proposal that a special envoy be appointed who would monitor and fight islamophobia, is discussed previously at Jihad Watch [The Hill](#), July 20, 2021:

> *Rep. Ilhan Omar (D-Minn.) and other Democratic lawmakers have signed onto a letter to Secretary of State Antony Blinken*

*urging him to appoint a special envoy tasked with monitoring and combatting Islamophobia.*

*In the letter sent Tuesday [July 20], Omar and two dozen other lawmakers cited the spike in Islamophobia seen in recent years as well as the "persecution of Muslims manifesting itself around the world."*

What "spike in Islamophobia" is that? Hasn't she noticed that during the past decade the Western world has flung open its gates to millions of Muslims who have been allowed to settle in the very midst of European states, deep behind what Muslims are taught to regard as enemy lines? Muslims have brought a "spike" in crime rates and in terrorism wherever they live. By taking advantage of every possible benefit that the generous welfare states of Western Europe offer — free or highly subsidized housing, free education, free medical care, family allowances, and more, Muslim migrants have cost the European taxpayers tens of billions of dollars — and counting.

All of this surely contributes to the "rational" antipathy that Europeans increasingly feel toward the Muslim migrants now in their lands, who largely refuse to integrate, supplement their welfare payments with crimes of property, and threaten the security on the streets of both women and of Jews. Meanwhile, both governments and the media confuse the public, in some cases by failing to identify Muslim terrorists as Muslims, or if they are so identified, the public is so often told by the police that the perpetrator was likely suffering from a "mental illness." No one bothers to investigate what is in the Qur'an that explains perfectly such behavior by Muslims, including their duty to "strike terror in the hearts of the Unbelievers." Mainstream journalists, and the police, are hellbent on ensuring that the public does not learn the contents of the Qur'an. Big Tech companies — including Google and Facebook — are willing collaborators in this effort, making it harder for islamocritical sites such as

Jihad Watch to reach their potential audience. Public figures, from presidents on down, bend over backward to assure the public that Islam is a "tolerant and peaceful religion," and tell us that "we mustn't allow extremists to define Islam. We must not make the mistake of blaming Islam. For if we do, the terrorists will have won."

Meanwhile, in the real world, since 9/11/2001 there have been nearly 40,000 separate terrorist attacks by Muslims.

When people start to mistrust or dislike Muslims, such feelings are based on what they observe of Muslim behavior and attitudes. It is based on real evidence, and does not reflect a pathological mental condition. Antisemitism is a very different phenomenon. It is a pathological condition; Jews are hated not for what they say or do, but for who they are. And nothing they say or do will change the mind of the convinced antisemite.

Antisemitism is a much bigger problem than anti-Muslim attitudes; outside Muslim countries themselves, where sectarian strife is common, anti-Muslim attitudes rarely result in violence. Jews in the U.S. are 2.5 times as likely to be attacked than Muslims. Outside the U.S., in Europe, anti-Jewish attacks are 5 ties more likely than anti-Muslim attacks.

> *The lawmakers also pointed to a recent annual report released by the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF), in which the office identified multiple countries with "patterns of mistreatment and human rights violations against either their entire Muslim populations or particular sects of Muslims.*

Obviously the situation of Muslims in China, where one million Uighurs are in re-education camps, a carefully-bowdlerized Qur'an is the only version of the book that Muslims may possess, imams are humiliated by being made to dance in public

and declare their allegiance to the Chinese Communist Party, the observance of Ramadan is made more difficult by forcing restaurants to remain open all day but then to close at night before the Iftar dinner, long "Islamic" beards must be cut, and Muslim first names are forbidden, is very bad. But other than China, and to a much lesser extent Myanmar, there is very little mistreatment of Muslims except in Muslim lands themselves. In Pakistan, Sunni terrorist groups such as Sipah-e-Sahaba specialize in killing Shiites, destroying their mosques and schools. Also in Pakistan, Ahmadi Muslims are by law not allowed to identify themselves as Muslims; they are despised as "Qadianis" who are guilty of "blasphemy" for believing that the 19th-century founder of the sect was indeed the Last of the Prophets. Ahmadis are a frequent object of both government repression and of private parties desirous of inflicting their own murderous punishments for blasphemy on the Ahmadis.

In Saudi Arabia, the Shi'a, almost all of whom live in the Eastern Province of al-Hasa where the oilfields are located, are mistreated by their Sunni political overlords; the Shi'a-populated province receives less aid from the central government to build much-needed infrastructure than any other region; it is also difficult for the Shi'a to obtain government employment. In Iran, it is the reverse. The Sunni Baloch in eastern Iran, on the border with Pakistan, are discriminated against by the Shi'a central government. Finally, in Afghanistan, the uber-Sunni Taliban was in the process of massacring the Shi'a Hazara in 2001 when the American troops arrived and rescued them; the Taliban have this year already renewed attacks on the Hazaras, not even waiting for all of the American troops to leave.

Ilhan Omar and her fellow lawmakers again:

> *"In addition to state-sponsored policies of Islamophobia, we have seen a disturbing rise in incidents of Islamophobic violence committed by individuals connected to larger*

*transnational white supremacist networks, including but by no means limited to the mosque shooting in Christchurch, New Zealand in 2019 and the recent murder of a Muslim Canadian family in London, Ontario," the lawmakers wrote.*

Other than China, where are there "state-sponsored policies of Islamophobia"? Only Myanmar comes to mind, for its attempt to drive Muslim Rohingya, regarded as a security threat by the Burmese Buddhists, into Bangladesh. But certainly there are none anywhere in Western world, where governments and the media have dedicated themselves to minimizing domestic Muslim threats. As for Omar's reference to "larger transnational white supremacist networks," neither Brendon Tarrant, who carried out the mosque shooting in Christchurch, nor Nathaniel Veltman, who ran over a Muslim family in Ontario, had connections to such networks. They were lone wolves.

*The lawmakers went on to strongly urge Blinken to establish the new role dedicated to combatting Islamophobia, calling it "a genuinely global problem that the United States should tackle globally."*

Ilhan Omar and her fellows want this proposal for the appointment of a special envoy on Islamophobia to achieve two goals. First, they want to impress upon the world that Muslims are every bit as much the victims of irrational hatred as the Jews whom Ilhan Omar thinks get far too much attention. Second, they want to use the charge of "Islamophobia" as a way to silence all legitimate islamocritics from continuing their work and, especially, to reduce their presence online.

Elder of Ziyon comments on this *[Jihad Watch](#)*.