

Pauline Hanson demands federal powers to close extremist mosques after Melbourne preacher's call to "take up arms"

Pauline Hanson has called for federal powers to close extremist mosques and prayer centres after a Melbourne preacher was reported telling followers that devotion to Allah carried a duty "to take up arms against his enemies".



[RUKSHAN FERNANDO](#) | SEPTEMBER 28, 2026 | NEWS | [BE THE FIRST TO COMMENT](#)



In a [media release posted to X](#) on Monday, under the headline "Labor's inaction is enabling radical Islamic terrorism", the One Nation leader accused the Albanese Government of looking the other way on terrorist recruitment and advocacy. "The first duty of government is to protect Australians. Labor is failing at this duty," Senator Hanson said.

Her statement came hours after news reports on a preacher known as Abu Ahmad, described as "a young and increasingly popular preacher from Melbourne's southeast". He preaches through the Al Bayyinah Islamic Centre, founded at Springvale in 2024, which has reportedly had the backing of Sydney preacher Wissam Haddad.

Pauline Hanson

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Media Release: Labor’s inaction is enabling radical Islamic terrorism.

One Nation is demanding targeted federal powers against fundamentalist Islamic terrorism following reports today that a Melbourne preacher urged followers to “take up arms” against Christians and Jews in [Show more](#)

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Abu Ahmad was speaking of Allah's enemies when he told listeners, in a talk shared on the centre's social media accounts: "It is to declare opposition: indeed, to take up arms against his enemies, to shun them and to stay far from them both in word and deed." He also said believers should not "take the Jews and the Christians for friends".

Hanson linked the remarks to Bondi. "Fifteen people were murdered in a terrorist act at Bondi. Now Australians are reading reports of an Islamic preacher urging followers to take up arms against Australian Christians and Jews. How much more do Albanese and Burke need to hear?" she said.

[EXCLUSIVE: ABC caught listing Hamas terrorists](#)

as Gazan 'journalists'



The ABC continues to list Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad-linked terrorists as Gazan 'journalists' despite clear evidence of links to terrorist activities. In the UK, the BBC has launched an urgent review after an investigation found at least 53 of those names on its own stories. Those same names appear on the taxpayer-funded ABC website as journalists.

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Fifteen victims were killed at [Bondi Beach's Chanukah by the Sea celebration](#) on 14 December 2025, in what police declared a terrorist attack. Police shot dead Sajid Akram. His son, Naveed Akram, is accused of 15 murders and of committing a terrorist act, charges that are yet to be tested in court.

"Labor and the Greens keep reaching for broad laws covering the whole community because they are too scared to confront radical Islamic terrorism directly," Hanson said.

"Stop lecturing the whole country and pretending every group presents the same risk. Create laws that go directly after fundamentalist Islamic preachers encouraging terrorist violence, the recruiters and the networks supporting them. Christians aren't calling for jihad. Hindus aren't calling for jihad."

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The [Combating Antisemitism, Hate and Extremism Act 2026](#), passed in January, applies to every protected group alike. It created s 80.2DA of the Criminal Code, an aggravated offence carrying up to 12 years' jail for religious leaders who urge violence, and gave the Government powers to list hate groups and cancel visas. Advocating terrorism under [s 80.2C](#) carries up to seven years, and the [Hate Crimes Act 2025](#) set mandatory minimum sentences. No federal law gives authorities the power to close a place of worship.

Hanson wants that gap closed. "We need stronger federal powers to shut down the extremist and fundamentalist mosques and Islamic prayer centres. These centres are popping up across our suburbs and seemingly allowing terrorist recruitment and advocacy to fester unchecked," she said. "Give ASIO and the AFP the resources and targeted powers to dismantle these networks. If current laws are inadequate, change them."

"If authorities don't crack down on these centres as soon as they emerge, then we're inviting, quite frankly, extremists, Salafists, jihadist Islam, into the suburbs," Deakin University's Josh Roose said in the same reporting.

One Nation is also pressing on terrorist fighters, migration and grants.

"People who voluntarily joined ISIS chose a terrorist organisation over Australia. Labor must put the safety of Australians first and stop blocking One Nation's Foreign Terrorist Fighters Bill," Hanson said.

The release also calls for "an immediate stop to new migration from countries DFAT rates 'do not travel' because of serious terrorism, kidnapping and violent crime". [Smartraveller currently lists 24 countries](#) at that level.

On funding, she said: "Labor has already been forced to cancel grants because of extremism." On 4 March the Government [scrapped its \\$670,000 election commitment](#) for the Dandenong-based Taha Humanity Association of Victoria, with Multicultural Affairs Minister Anne Aly citing "social cohesion concerns".

"Bondi should have ended the excuses. Australians must never pay for this government's political cowardice with their lives," Hanson said.

Her release calls on the Home Affairs Minister, Tony Burke, to "disclose whether any taxpayer funding is going to Islamic organisations that are encouraging or enabling terrorism". Neither Burke nor Prime Minister Anthony Albanese had responded at the time of publication.

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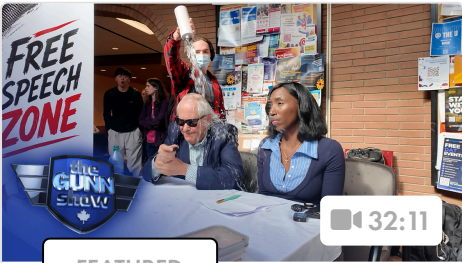
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