

In March 2026, the House of Lords of the Parliament of the United Kingdom (UK) of **Great Britain and Northern Ireland passed an amendment to the UK Crime and Policing Bill** that would criminalize saying “Up the Ra”. The amendment was proposed by Baroness Arlene Foster, former First Minister of the Northern Ireland Assembly and former leader of the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP).

The Crime and Policing Bill had contained an “emulation requirement” which would have **required that prosecutors prove that the speaker accused of glorifying terrorism also intended to encourage others to copy those acts**. Foster said this set a “very high bar to meet for prosecution” and that there had been “no prosecutions in Northern Ireland and very few in England and Wales, despite the growing glorification of terrorism and terrorists”. **She also claimed that parents at a St Patrick’s Day parade in Newry, Co Down “were buying balaclavas and scarves with IRA slogans on them for their young children”**. **Another member of the House of Lords, Baroness Claire Fox opined in opposition that she could not: “see how it would deal with a Rangers-Celtic match, or with people ... shouting ‘Up the Ra’ and those shouting ‘No surrender’**.

The amendment has progressed to report stage, which gives Members of Parliament in the House of Commons an opportunity to consider further amendments. The date when consideration of Lords amendments was scheduled: April 14, 2026.