

The 1st Commemoration of the International Day to Combat Islamophobia, March 15, 2023.
It aims to promote unity, tolerance, and solidarity with all humanity.

Islamophobia Scorecard™

Grade: 0/10

We gather content from publicly available sources and aggregate this information into an easily understood format, providing free access to the public. While the information reviewed is believed to be accurate, we have not independently verified it and do not purport to have done so. The listed individuals and entities are invited to submit information identifying any oversight, errors, or omissions for consideration. The grades supplied herein represent our subjective evaluation and opinions based on review of the publicly available sources referenced. We all have the right to know if an individual or organization engages, condones, aids, or acquiesces in prejudice, hate, and discrimination against Muslims and Islam. This includes individuals and organizations that may not actively profess or even believe in such manner, but who financially or otherwise support or invest in others that do. By exposing Islamophobia, society is better informed about bigotry in their communities. *Updated: August 29, 2023*



Instigator & Provocateur: Lauren Southern (Canada)

Organizational Affiliation: The Rebel Media, Defend Europe

Character Introduction and Islamophobia Status¹

Grade 0

Is the instigator an established Islamophobe?	YES
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Islamophobic Organization and Strength²

Grade 0

Does the instigator represent an Islamophobic organization	YES
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Funding Sources for Islamophobia³

Grade 0

Instigator and/or organization funded by one or more third-party sources	YES
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Statements Inciting Islamophobia⁴

Grade 0

Engaged and made statements inciting Islamophobia	YES
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Act of Islamophobia Violence⁵

Grade 0

Engaged in acts of Islamophobia, violence	YES
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Desecration of Islamic Symbols⁶

Grade 0

Engaged in desecration of Islamic symbols	YES
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Racism against Muslims and Other Communities⁷

Grade 0

Incites racism against Muslims and other minorities	YES
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Indictments and Judicial Actions⁸

Grade 0

The instigator or organization has been indicted, and legal actions taken against	YES
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Scope of Influence (local and/or global)⁹

Grade 0

Extend of influence local or global	local
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International Acknowledgements and Condemnation¹⁰

Grade 0

An international organization has condemned the instigator or organization.	YES
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Character Introduction and Islamophobia Status¹

At the initiative of the organization of Islamic countries, the OIC, on March 15, 2022, the United Nations designated March 15 as the International Day to Combat Islamophobia. The UN resolution invites all Member States, relevant organizations of the United Nations system, other international and regional organizations, and civil society, private sector and faith-based organizations to organize and support various high-visibility events aimed at effectively increasing awareness at all levels about curbing Islamophobia.



LAUREN SOUTHERN, FACE OF ISLAMOPHOBIA

[Lauren Southern](#) is a Canadian YouTuber, political activist, and commentator associated with the alt-right. Born on June 16, 1995, in Surrey, British Columbia, she has attracted attention due to her views on immigration, Islam, and feminism. Critics argue that Southern's perspectives on Islam are misleading and discriminatory, suggesting they foster negative sentiments toward Muslims. This kind of rhetoric, some believe, can cultivate an environment that is hostile to the Muslim community, potentially leading to discrimination and violence against its members. She actively promotes Islamophobic conspiracies about Muslim invaders taking over the West and how White Christians face an existential and cultural threat because of this agenda. She has been connected to xenophobic, far-right campaigns seeking to stop migrants from entering Europe. Reports suggested Lauren Southern has had relationships with Black and Arab men, leading to strong reactions from some individuals within the Alt-Right community. She visited [India for her assignment in Delhi](#) for The Rebel Media and Faith Goldy in November 2016 to file a final report on the UN "nanny state" conference.

Organizational Engagement and Strength²

Does the instigator or provocateur represent or lead an organization that routinely engages in Islamophobic acts, and what is the organization's strength?

Lauren Southern ran as a candidate for the Libertarian Party in the [2015 Canadian federal election](#) in the district of Langley–Aldergrove. She was briefly removed as a candidate by the party due to her disruption of an event but was reinstated with the support of Breitbart News and The Rebel Media. In this event, Southern disrupted a SlutWalk event, challenging attendees who were discussing their experiences with sexual assault and critiquing the Canadian Justice System. She claimed that "[there is no Rape Culture in The West.](#)" An [online petition](#) has been initiated in response to her actions, addressing her attempt to silence survivors and their supporters during

the event. Conservative candidate Mark Warawa won the election, and Southern finished last with [535 votes](#), or 0.9% of the total.

Southern gained prominence through her YouTube commentaries and contributions to The [Rebel Media](#), a Canadian conservative online platform.

Funding Sources for Islamophobia³

Instigator, provocateur, or the organization that routinely engages in Islamophobia, and how they receive their funds and who funds them.

Southern Lauren's primary funds come from public donations and revenue from her YouTube channel. Lauren has garnered support from conservative [right-wing](#) followers, who have generously donated to her cause. She utilized these funds for an international tour to document various "injustices". Additionally, she has collaborated with Rebel News, a Canadian political and social commentary media website known for its far-right-leaning perspectives.

She also raised donations from a crowdfunding campaign called [Defend Europe](#).

Statements Inciting Islamophobia⁴

The nature of statements made by the instigators, provocateurs, or organizations inciting Islamophobia violence.

[Brenton Tarrant](#), the individual responsible for the tragic 2019 attacks on two mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand, where 51 people lost their lives, was influenced by YouTube videos discussing the "Great Replacement" theory. He was also known to have been a fan of notable right-leaning figures such as Stefan Molyneux, Richard Spencer, and Lauren Southern.

Acts of Islamophobia Violence⁵

Acts of Islamophobia incited by the instigators, provocateurs, or the organization representing them.

In 2016, [Lauren Southern was photographed](#) with her then Rebel News colleague, Faith Goldy, wearing hoodies emblazoned with the far-right slogan "Deus vult" alongside a caption that read "In hoc signo vinces". Historically, "Deus vult" translates to "God wills it" and was a battle cry during the First Crusade. This imagery and phraseology from the Crusades have been adopted by some groups that express anti-Muslim sentiments, utilizing the historical context to further Islamophobic agendas.

In her book, "[Barbarians: How Baby Boomers, Immigrants, and Islam Screwed My Generation](#)", Southern made various controversial claims. Among them, she stated that resisting what she termed as the "Muslim invasion" cannot be labeled as "Christian terrorism". She also devoted a chapter, "How Islam is Ruining Everything", to dismiss the concept of Islamophobia, claiming that fearing Islam is mere "common sense". She contended that Islam hasn't evolved in the same way as Christianity and Judaism. Furthermore, Southern expressed her views against immigration and multiculturalism in her writings.

Desecration of Islamic Symbols⁶

Acts of desecration of Islamic symbols incited by the instigators, provocateurs, or the organization representing them.

In a [video responding](#) to criticisms of her political commentary on YouTube, Southern created a satirical makeup tutorial titled "Makeup Tutorial for Infidels". During the video, she mixed in commentary that associated Muslims with topics like female genital mutilation and terrorism, culminating in her writing "F*** ISLAM" on her cheeks.

Southern, in collaboration with Robinson, carried out a ["social experiment"](#) where they distributed leaflets saying "Allah is Gay, Allah is Trans, Allah is Lesbian, Allah is Intersex, Allah is Feminist, Allah is Queer, Allah is All of Us". Southern claims that this stunt contributed to her being banned from the UK.

[Racism against Muslims and Other Communities](#)⁷

Overt acts of racism against Muslims and other communities by the instigators, provocateurs, or the organization representing them.

2017 Southern journeyed to the Mediterranean Sea to back the controversial [Defend Europe campaign](#). She and her team chartered a 250-foot vessel to prevent NGOs, including Doctors Without Borders, from conducting search-and-rescue missions for migrants at sea. Although the team didn't succeed in their mission, their actions garnered support from certain extremist groups, even receiving an endorsement from David Duke, a former grand wizard of the Ku Klux Klan.

Additionally, Southern produced a documentary that advanced the unsubstantiated claim of a "[white genocide](#)" taking place in South Africa.

Though often associated with the alt-right and white nationalist movements, Southern has consistently denied being racist. She has also aimed to differentiate between the terms ["White nationalist"](#) and ["White supremacist"](#), arguing that the former describes Richard Spencer's ideology, and insisting on a moral distinction between the two labels.

Furthermore, Southern is an outspoken critic of modern feminism. In 2015, she made an appearance at a [Slutwalk](#) protest in Vancouver, holding a sign that proclaimed, "There is NO rape culture in the West."

In a 2016 [YouTube video for Rebel Media](#), Lauren Southern referred to Black Lives Matter as akin to a terrorist organization, stating, "At times, it seems as though Black Lives Matter behaves more like an extremist group than a political movement." Additionally, in an interview with Vice the following year, she commented, "The media often gives Black individuals the impression that they are continuously oppressed by white actions."

[Indictments and Judicial Actions](#)⁸

Did the instigator, provocateur, or the organization representing them ever indicted and faced judicial actions for their racism or Islamophobia?

In Lauren Southern, a right-wing journalist, was [denied entry into the UK](#), allegedly due to her criticism of Islam. The leaflets, which the UK's anti-terrorism police pinpointed as the reason for detaining and barring Southern from the UK, were unveiled to be promoting ["LGBT for Islam."](#)

She was presented with a [bill](#) of \$68,000 from Victoria Police, charging for the security resources to be deployed during her event in Melbourne.

In 2018, Southern encountered a confrontation with the police when she tried to approach Australia's largest [Lakemba Mosque](#), citing concerns over potential offense to Muslims. Inspector Agius advised Southern against visiting the mosque, expressing worries over the potential breach of peace her presence might cause.

Lauren Southern was briefly [detained by the Italian Coast Guard](#) for blocking a migrant ship.

Following her efforts to hinder rescue operations aiding migrants stranded in the Mediterranean, Southern was [prohibited from monetizing her content](#) on the media platform Patreon.

Scope of Influence (local and/or global)⁹

What is the scope of influence by the Instigator, provocateur, or the organization?

She involves in hate against Muslim in Canada, UK, Australia and New Zealand but her anti-Islam thoughts and ideologies spread in US and other western countries.

International Acknowledgements and Condemnation¹⁰

Has an international organization acknowledged and condemned the acts of Islamophobia by the instigator, or the organization represented by the instigator?

Following Immigration New Zealand's decision to issue working visas to Canadians Lauren Southern and Stefan Molyneux, both of whom are known for their controversial views on Islam, the president of the [Federation of Islamic Associations of New Zealand](#), Hazim Arafah, voiced his concerns. He commented, "Such rhetoric deeply upsets Muslims worldwide." He further noted, "The community is already under strain with increased scrutiny and profiling of Muslims, which isn't beneficial for societal harmony."