

**MEHREEN  
FARUQI**

**GREENS DEPUTY LEADER  
& SENATOR FOR NSW**



The Hon Anthony Albanese MP, Prime Minister of Australia  
Australian Parliament House  
Parliament Dr, Canberra ACT 2600

13 March 2025

Dear Prime Minister,

### **Rising Islamophobia in Australia**

I write to you as one of the very few Muslims in our parliament and someone who is extremely concerned about rising Islamophobia in Australia. It is deeply troubling that Muslim women have overwhelmingly been the targets of the sharp rise in Islamophobia. I am disturbed by the the lack of urgency from your government to address anti-Muslim, anti-Arab and anti-Palestinian racism.

The Christchurch mosque massacre on 15 March 2019, when an Australian far-right white supremacist murdered 51 Muslims, changed our lives in this country forever. The sixth anniversary of this terrorist incident approaches at a time when Islamophobia is rife. It is 2025 and mosques are threatened with violence, racist graffiti is rampant, and physical and verbal Islamophobic assaults continue. At the same time, people are losing their jobs, they are being silenced and demonised for expressing an opinion against Israel's genocide.

This is the time to combat Islamophobia as the emergency it is, not attack those bearing the brunt of this searing hatred. Political leaders neglect, minimise and even deny Islamophobia, while hiding behind whitewashed buzzwords. All this does is bury the truth and entrench white privilege.

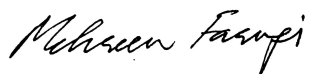
As one of the many Muslims living in this country, I am hurt and exasperated by the glaring double standards used when it comes to calling out and dealing with Islamophobia. We are feeling really let down by the Labor government.

On this 'International Day to Combat Islamophobia', I urge the government to drop the one-sided approach to racism, unequivocally acknowledge and tackle the breadth and depth of rising Islamophobia and loudly reject political narratives that fuel fear, blame and hatred against Muslims. I hope you take the time to read and consider the [5th Islamophobia in Australia Report](#), which details an unprecedented surge in Islamophobic incidents.

I also urge you to fully fund the implementation of the National Anti-Racism Framework at the upcoming budget so we can start to tackle racism, bigotry and hate in all its forms.

Regards,

Mehreen



Dr Mehreen Faruqi

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