

# £6m a year gift aid for Islamic charities linked to extremist speakers

From [tSunday Times](#)



Islamist extremists are exploiting a range of “good” causes, according to a security think-tank. CHARITIES used by extremists who promote violence or hatred received £6million in tax relief last year, a bombshell report reveals. The £6million is the amount waived through the Gift

Aid tax scheme. The cash write-off could be spent on producing radical material and events or pay for travel to conflict zones.

But the report makes clear it was used by non violent charities and individuals. . . accuses charities of supporting “the spread of harmful non-violent extremist views that are not illegal; by providing platforms, credibility and support to a network of extremists operating in the UK.”

One international charity mentioned in the paper is chaired by an Islamic preacher banned from entering the UK.

The report, *Wolves In Sheep’s Clothing: How Islamist Extremists Exploit the UK Charitable Sector*, has been produced by the Henry Jackson Society think-tank by its research fellow Emma Webb, a specialist in counter-extremism who studied 30 charities.

(She ) believes it could be the tip of the iceberg. She said:

“It is outrageous millions of pounds of taxpayers’ money is unwittingly being handed over to extremists.”

The report calculates that £6,066,952 a year in Gift Aid received by charities in its study would be enough to fund 27,000 NHS hospital beds, 264 new teachers or 229 soldiers.