

UK to ban Hezbollah under anti-terror laws ~ approved by Parliament

From [BBC](#), and the [supporters to vote on this year's route](#). I can't see that any date has been set yet, but the last Friday in Ramadan will be Friday 31st May. They are [Independent](#).

MPs have approved the government's decision to proscribe [Hezbollah](#)'s political wing as a terrorist organisation.

Home secretary [Sajid Javid](#) said the new designation would cover the political as well as military wing of the [Lebanese](#) Shia group.

"There have long been calls to ban the whole group with the distinction between the two factions derided as smoke and mirrors," Mr Javid said during a debate on the prevention and suppression of terrorism in the House of Commons. "Hezbollah themselves have laughed off the suggestion there is a difference. I've carefully considered the evidence and I'm satisfied they are one and the same with the entire organisation linked to terrorism."

Labour drew fire for refusing to back the government's decision, only going as far as saying it would "not be opposing the motion".

Tory former cabinet minister Theresa Villiers intervened to ask: "Does the Labour front bench support the proscription of Hezbollah in its entirety?"

Tory ex-cabinet minister, Stephen Crabb, also criticised Labour, saying ". . . what we want to hear from the opposition

tonight is they actively support this important measure we are taking".

Labour's Dame Louise Ellman welcomed the "much-needed measure", but added: "I am extremely concerned [Mr Thomas-Symonds], speaking for the opposition, was unable to give proper, full support to the banning of this terrorist organisation Hezbollah in its entirety. Hezbollah are not our friends and today would have been a very good opportunity to say so."