

Factors and Contexts of Divergence Between the United Kingdom and the Zionist Regime

Mohammad. Masoud Gol Aghae^{1*}, Kazem. Zoghi Barani²

¹ Master of Science, Regional Studies, Imam Hossein (AS) University, Tehran, Iran

² Assistant Professor, Department of Political Geography and Geopolitics, Imam Hussein University, Tehran, Iran

* Corresponding author email address: masoudgolaghaei7880@gmail.com

Received: 2025-04-02	Revised: 2025-04-25	Accepted: 2025-05-06	Published: 2025-07-01
EDITOR: Tahereh Ebrahimifar ^{id} Head of Sociology Department, Faculty of Arts, Helwan University, Cairo, Egypt. Email: Tah.Ebrahimifar@iauctb.ac.ir			
REVIEWER 1: Yuyu Zheng ^{id} School of International Relations, University of St Andrews, St Andrews, London, United Kingdom. Email: yuyuzheng@gmail.com			
REVIEWER 2: Mustafa Kaan Tuysuz ^{id} Institute of Social Sciences, Siirt University, Siirt, Turkey. Email: AhmetKılıç@siirt.edu.tr			

1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The statement “The policies of various United Kingdom governments...have had a significant impact on the political divergence” is too general. Identify specific administrations (e.g., Cameron, Johnson, Sunak) and connect their policy decisions to concrete instances of divergence.

When mentioning Paul Bristow’s 2023 statement, provide the exact parliamentary debate or official document reference. This would enhance source transparency and verifiability.

The phrase “far-right movements in Israeli governments” requires nuance. Provide data or scholarly references defining what qualifies as “far-right” in the Israeli political context and how this classification affects UK perceptions.

You note that settlement expansion challenges diplomacy, but the analysis would benefit from referencing UN Security Council resolutions (e.g., 2334 [2016]) to frame Britain’s response within international law.

The discussion of COVID-19 and economic crises should include at least minimal trade statistics (e.g., bilateral export/import volumes 2019–2024) to validate claims of declining cooperation.

The sentence “International pressures and sanctions...could fuel economic divergence” is speculative. Either provide evidence (e.g., statements from HM Treasury or Department for Business) or qualify it as a potential rather than confirmed effect.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The article describes post-Brexit diplomacy as expansionary. However, it should critically evaluate how Brexit both increased and constrained Britain's strategic flexibility toward Israel. Include references to official foreign-policy white papers or trade data to substantiate the claim.

The link between Britain's suspension of arms export licenses and divergence is insightful, yet no causal reasoning is provided. Add analysis explaining why this suspension reflects policy divergence rather than temporary humanitarian alignment.

The paragraph summarizes Iran's influence but doesn't clearly show how Britain's interpretation diverges from Israel's. Integrate direct policy contrasts or quotations from British Foreign Office statements to concretize this divergence.

While regional security crises are cited, the article lacks analysis of how intelligence-sharing frameworks (e.g., Five Eyes or NATO liaison structures) mediate or limit UK-Israel security divergence. Add a subsection addressing institutional constraints.

This section lists aims but not outcomes. Discuss whether the agreement has been implemented effectively or faced political resistance in Parliament or the Knesset, to transform description into evaluation.

Excellent identification of public-opinion dynamics, but quantitative or survey data (e.g., YouGov polls on Israel favorability) would substantiate claims about shifting British attitudes.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

2. Revised

Editor's decision: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.