

RACE & CLASS

UK Criminal Justice timeline – The Past in the Present

A timeline 1958–2025 showing key pieces of legislation, local and national policies, narratives and moments of resistance that relate to racism in the criminal justice system as analysed in Race & Class articles.

Each entry is sourced to a Race & Class author, and more information about the historical event/topic you are interested in, can be found in a summary of the sourced article that you will find in the Race & Class UK criminal justice archive.

[This timeline accompanies the resource Race & Class criminal justice archive – The Past in the Present](#)

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1950s – 60s

August 1958	'Race Riots' in Nottingham and Notting Hill, London Source: Sivanandan, R&C, Vol 23, 2/3 1981/1982
May 1959	West Indian carpenter, Kelso Cochrane , stabbed to death in Notting Hill. The police fail to find the killers. Source: Sivanandan, Vol 23, 2/3 1981/1982

1960s – 70s

<p>May 1963</p>	<p>Amidst concern that an expanded jury pool includes the ‘labouring classes’, ‘immigrants’ and ‘coloureds’, the Home Office establishes a Departmental Committee on Jury Service (Morris Committee), marking the inception of a political discourse around majority verdicts. Source: Waller and Sakande, R&C, Vol 65, 4, 2024</p>
<p>1965</p>	<p>Following visit of Malcolm X in February 1965, the Racial Action Adjustment Society (RAAS) is formed. Source: Sivanandan, R&C, Vol 23, 2-3, 1981-1982</p>
<p>1965</p>	<p>Race Relations Act 1965 outlaws discrimination in ‘places of public resort’. A clause on incitement to racial hatred leads to the prosecution of Black activists. Source: Sivanandan, R&C, Volume 17, 4, 1976; Waller and Sakande, R&C, Vol. 65, 4, 2024.</p>
<p>1965</p>	<p>West Indian Standing Conference publish ‘Nigger hunting in England’. Source: Sivanandan, Vol 23, 2/3 1981/1982</p>
<p>1967</p>	<p>The Black Power desk, a unit within Scotland Yard, is established to infiltrate, collect and share information on Black Power. Source: Waller and Sakande, R&C, Vol. 65, 4, 2024</p> <p>The UK government also co-operated closely with Special Branches and police forces in the Caribbean to suppress Black Power, with the Information Research Department of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office playing a key role. Source: Gowland, R&C, Vol 64, 2, 2022</p>
<p>1967</p>	<p>Criminal Justice Act 1967 introduces majority (non-unanimous) verdicts, allowing a prosecutor to secure a guilty verdict with the agreement of just 10 of 12 jurors, removing safeguards against wrongful conviction. Source: Waller and Sakande, R&C, Vol 65, 4, 2024</p>

1968	<p>Race Relations Act 1968, which outlaws discrimination in the provisions of goods, services and facilities, employment, trade union membership and housing, is passed at a time of growing concern about the Black Power Movement.</p> <p>Source: Notes and Documents, R&C, Vol 17, 4, 1977</p>
1968	<p>Urban Aid Programme allocates £25 million, over a period of four years, to local authorities in areas of deprivation where services are under strain. Regarded as a response to the 'colour problem'.</p> <p>Source: Bridges, R&C, Vol 23, no's 2/3 1981-1982</p>
1968	<p>In response to Enoch Powell's Birmingham 'Rivers of Blood speech' (20 April 1968), the Urban Aid Programme is introduced, initiating a process whereby the Home Office gains more control over social policy.</p> <p>Source: Bridges, R&C, Vol 16, 4, 1975.</p>

1970s – 80s

1971	<p>Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 introduced. Section 23 allows police to conduct searches for drugs.</p> <p>Source: Koch, Williams, Wroe, R&C, Vol 65, 3, 2024.</p>
May 1971	<p>Four Black youth, later acquitted, charged with serious offences following an unprecedented police siege, involving SPG units from all over London, of the Metro Youth Club in West London. A campaign to defend the Metro 4 formed.</p> <p>Source: Gowland, R&C, Vol 64, 2, 2022.</p>
December 1971	<p>The trial of the Mangrove 9 ends with the acquittal of all nine defendants for incitement to riot at a 1970 protest against the police targeting of the Caribbean restaurant in Notting Hill.</p> <p>Source: Sivanandan, R&C, Vol 23, 2/3, 1981/1982; Gowland, Vol 64, 2, 2022.</p>
1972	<p>National Security Committee considers, but rejects the creation of a third paramilitary force in British policing, but suggests extending riot training, and clear guidelines as when the army should be brought in.</p> <p>Source: Bunyan, R&C, Vol 22, 2/3 1981/1982</p>
1972	<p>Special Patrol Group retrained under Met Commissioner Sir Robert Mark, on the RUC model, and 22 new units created in other parts of the country. Taking on a greater role in fire brigade policing, they are trained in riot control techniques, snatch squad methods, flying wedges, random stop and search and roadblock techniques, based on the army's experience in Northern Ireland. Saturation policing follows in areas defined as high crime areas, such as Brixton, Lewisham, Hackney, Peckham, Noting Hill and Brent.</p> <p>Source: Bunyan, R&C, Vol 22, 2/3, 1981/1982, Sivanandan, Vol 23, 2/3, 1981/1982.</p>
March 1972	<p>Police arrest Tony Soares, a member of the Black Liberation Front (BLF) and charge him with terrorist-related offences, also raiding the BLF officers and keeping the newspaper Grass Roots under Special Branch surveillance.</p> <p>Source: Gowland, R&C, Vol 64, 1, 2022.</p>

1973	White Paper on Police/Immigrant Relations in England and Wales published. Source: Bridges, R&C, Vol 16, 4, 1975.
June 1974	Student Kevin Gateley killed at demonstration against the National Front in Red Lion Square, London. SPG tactics criticised. Lord Scarman carries out inquiry. Source: Bunyan, R&C, Vol 22, 2/3, 1981/82
October 1974	In a speech in Birmingham, Conservative home affairs spokesperson, Sir Keith Joseph , says 'our human stock' is threatened by the higher birth rates of the working classes. Source: Bridges, R&C, Vol 16, 4, 1975.
October 1974	The British government allegedly uses Dibenzoxazepine -a skin irritant ten times more powerful than other tear gases – to quell a revolt by Republican prisoners at Long Kesh. Source: [Also for subsequent campaign to establish the truth] Fekete, R&C, Vol. 67, 2, 2025.
November 1974	Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act 1974 introduced as an emergency temporary measure after the Guildford and Woolwich IRA pub bombings, allows the state to target those travelling between Britain and Ireland; subsequently renewed annually. Source: Peirce, R&C, Vol 31, 3, 1990; Käyhkö, R&C, Vol 66, 4, 2025.
1975	At a major trial that followed a police raid on the black Carib Club in North London it is revealed that a 'race code' was in use on the Met police's criminal record form which comprised categories like IC 2 Dark-skinned European type; IC 3 Negroid type; IC 4, Asian type, etc. Source: Gutzmore, R&C, Vol 25, 2, 1983.
1975	Black Parents Movement formed after three black school students are harassed by police in the school lunch hour and one, Cliff McDaniel, receives a severe beating in front of teachers. Source: Webber, R&C, Vol 25, 2, 1983.
1975	The first case using the power of deportation under the Immigration Act 1971 , allowing for deportation on grounds of presence not conducive to the public good, brought against Franco Caprino , an Italian worker active organising workers in the catering industry.

	Source: UK Commentary, R&C, Vol 17, 1, 1975.
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September 1975	Four hundred police officers drafted in as three armed young political black men intent on a small-scale robbery at the Knightsbridge Spaghetti House ended up holding nine waiters hostage, making demands as the Black Liberation Army, in what became known as The Spaghetti House Siege . Fibre optics used for the first time in live surveillance. Source: Sivanandan, R&C, Vol 23, 2/3 1981/1982; Bourne, R&C, Vol 56, 3, 2015.
1976	White Paper Policy for the Inner Cities recognises economic decline and proposes the establishment of Inner City Partnerships. Source: Bridges, R&C, Vol 23 2/3, 1981/1982.
March 1976	In evidence to the Select Committee on Race Relations and Immigration , the Met claim that criticism from the black community was totally unjustifiable, that members of the West Indian community were combining against the police, with socially alienated unemployed black youth identified as the source of the problem, claiming, on the basis of criminal record sheets, that 79% of robberies were committed by black people. Source: Gutzmore, R&C, Vol 25, 2, 1983.
June 1976	Gurdip Singh Chaggar stabbed to death in Southall with the Met police commissioner Sir Robert Mark saying the motive was not necessarily racial. In a speech in Stratford, far-right leader John Kingsley Read says 'one down, one million to go'. Sources: Sivanandan, R&C, Vol 23, 2/3, 1981/1982; Nijjar/ Grover, R&C, Vol 62, 3, 2021.
Summer 1976	Street battles between black youth and police, following massive overpolicing of the Notting Hill carnival . Sources: Gutzmore, R&C, Vol 25, 2, 1983; Webber, R&C, Vol 25, 2, 1983.

November 1976	<p>Race Relations Act 1976 extends the protection from discrimination provided in previous legislation and establishes the Commission for Racial Equality. Preceded in 1975 by a White Paper on Racial Discrimination which, according to Sivanandan, revealed the state's racist anxieties about rebellious Black youth.</p> <p>Source: [for White Paper], Sivanandan, R&C, Vol 17, 4, 1976</p>
1977	<p>Criminal Law Act 1977 drastically cuts a defendant's right to peremptory challenge of jurors.</p> <p>Source: Gutzmore, R&C, Vol 25,2, 1983.</p>
August 1977	<p>Police use riot shields for the first time in mainland Britain at Lewisham in London during running battles between police and anti-fascists at a National Front march, and a month later at the Notting Hill Carnival.</p> <p>Source: Bunyan, R&C, Vol 22, 2/3, 1981/82</p>
1978	<p>Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure established to examine the powers and duties of the police, the rights and duties of suspects, and the process of prosecution in criminal cases. The Institute of Race Relations' written evidence is subsequently published as <i>Police Against Black People</i>.</p> <p>Sources: Notes and Documents [introduction to Police Against Black People], R&C, Vol 24, 4, 1979; Bridges, R&C, Vol 25, 2, 1983. [For impact of the report], Nijjar/Grover, R&C Vol 62, 3, 2021.</p>
1978	<p>In <i>Ireland v UK</i> (5310/71), a case brought by Ireland in 1971, the European Court of Human Rights rules that interrogation techniques (five techniques that amounted to complete sensory deprivation) used by the British army against Irish Republican suspects constitute inhuman and degrading treatment.</p> <p>Source: Webber, R&C, Vol 43, 2, 2001.</p>
January 1978	<p>Judge McKinnon rules that National Front leader Kingsley Read's pronouncement on the death of Gurdip Singh Chaggar, 'One down, One million to go', did not constitute incitement to racial hatred.</p> <p>Source: Sivanandan, R&C, Vol 23, 2/3, 1981/1982</p>
1979	<p>Stuart Hall and others, in the seminal text <i>Policing the Crisis</i>, establish that 'mugging', a term blown up by the media into the 'crime' that most menaces urban Britain, is a crime without legal status or definition.</p> <p>Sources: Gutzmore, R&C, Vol 25, 2, 1983; [for comparison with the 'gangs narrative'],</p>

	Williams, R&C, Vol 65, 3, 2015. [for comparison with Muslim grooming gangs narrative], Cockbain, R&C, Vol 54, 4, 2013.
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1979	As part of new Inner City Partnerships, a Community Policing Experiment, the Lozells Project , is introduced in Handsworth, Birmingham, putting the police in control of youth and community services. Sources: Bridges, R&C, Vol 23, 2/3 1981/1982; Webber, R&C, vol, 25 2, 1983; Sivanandan, Vol 23, 3, 1986.
April 1979	2,756 police, including the SPG, drafted into Southall, where counter protest to the National Front is brutally suppressed and anti-racist teacher Blair Peach is beaten to death, the People's Unite building is demolished, and hundreds of others injured. Subsequently, a defence campaign is formed to support the 342 people arrested and brought to trial at Barnet Magistrates Court. Sources: Sivanandan, R&C, Vol 23, 2/3 1981/1982; Nijjar/Grover, Vol 62, 3, 2021.

1980s – 90s

April 1980	<p>Following a police raid on the Black and White Café, one of the few meeting places for black youth in the St Paul's area, a riot breaks out in Bristol.</p> <p>Sources: R&C, Notes and Documents, Vol 22, 2/3, 1982; Clement, R&C, Vol 48, 4, 2007; [for comparison with 'Tesco riots' of 2011], Clement, R&C, 53, 3, 2012.</p>
1981	<p>Broadwater Farm Youth Association formed.</p> <p>Sources: Levidow, R&C, Vol 29, 1, 1987; [for the link between Broadwater Farm and the Tottenham Defence Campaign formed after the August 2011 'riots'], Fekete, R&C, Vol 53, 3, 2013.</p>
1981	<p>Celia Stubbs, the partner of Blair Peach, killed by the SPG in Southall in 1979, helps found INQUEST, which provides essential support to the families of those who have died in custody.</p> <p>Sources: Fekete, R&C, Vol 54, 3, 2013. [For more on work of INQUEST], Bruce-Jones, R&C, Vol 62, 3, 2021; O'Neill, R&C, Vol 67, 3, 2026.</p>
1981	<p>Scarman report into the causes of the Brixton riots published.</p> <p>Sources: Bridges, R&C, volume 25, 2, 1983, Bridges & Fekete, Vol. 27, no. 1, 1985; Bridges, Vol 27, no 4, 1986; [for similarities with Lammy review], Fekete, Vol 59, 3, 2018.</p>
March 1981	<p>Black People's Day of Action in response to the New Cross massacre that killed 13 black young people in January 1981.</p> <p>Source: Sivanandan, R&C, Vol 22, 2/3, 1981/1982.</p>
April 1981	<p>Uprisings in more than thirty towns and cities, starting in Brixton (following police operation Swamp 81), and then Southall (the Hambrough Tavern hosting a neo-Nazi concert is burnt down) and across the country. CS gas used for the first time in mainland Britain, in Liverpool, where a young white disabled man, David Moore, is killed by police while driving at high speed. Environment secretary Lord Heseltine visits Toxteth and is commissioned to write a report on the Liverpool riots.</p> <p>Source: Sivanandan/Bunyan/Bridges/Notes and Documents, R&C, Vol 22, 2/3, 1981/82</p>

November 1981	<p>Home Office investigation into Racial Attacks published, advocating the formation of Racial Incident Harassment Panels within a multi-agency approach. Whilst acknowledging that racist violence is more widespread than previously reported, it criticised ethnic minorities for creating organisations that ‘stoke up the temperature’ in order ‘to justify their own existence’.</p> <p>Source: Bridges and Fekete, R&C, Vol 27, 1, 1985.</p>
December 1981	<p>Southall Monitoring Group formed. Subsequently involved in many campaigns such as the Kuldip Sekhon campaign, and the campaigns for Stephen Lawrence, Ricky Reel and Micheal Manson.</p> <p>Source: Nijjar/ Grover, R&C, Vol 62, 3, 2021.</p>
May 1982	<p>Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, takes early retirement following the withdrawal of his book, <i>What Next in the Law</i>, in which he criticised Black jurors who heard cases related to the 1980 Bristol uprising. British citizens ‘no longer’ share the same moral values, he argued in the book, and as such ‘no longer all qualified to serve on juries’ because ‘the English are no longer a homogeneous race’.</p> <p>Source: [on Bristol and Denning], Gutzmore, R&C, 25, 2, 1983.</p>
September 1982	<p>Eight Asian youths, escorting to and from school younger children who feared racist attack, set upon by plainclothes police officers and arrested. Newham 8 defence campaign formed.</p> <p>Source: Fekete, R&C, Vol 28, 4, 1987.</p>
1983	<p>Black representatives oppose an attempt by criminologists Jock Young and John Lea, whose work had been criticised for supporting the black youth mugging link, to carry out a Criminal Victimization survey under the auspices of several Labour controlled inner city boroughs of London.</p> <p>Sources: Gutzmore, Vol 25, 2, 1983. [For more on Young and Lea and the Left’s ‘new realism’], Bridges and Fekete, R&C, Vol 27, 1, 1985.</p>
1983	<p>John Fernandes is sacked as a lecturer at the Met’s police cadet training school at Hendon, after exposing the extent of racism in cadets’ essays as well as teaching.</p> <p>Source: Sivanandan, R&C, Vol 25, 2, 1983</p>

1984	<p>Police & Criminal Justice Act 1984 brings in greater powers of stop and search, detention and interrogation, and establishes Police Consultative Committees, via local authorities.</p> <p>Sources: [For the Bill that preceded the law), Bridges, Vol 25, 2, 1983; Bridges, R&C, Vol 26, 4, 1986.</p>
1984	<p>As Black communities press for legal remedies to racial harassment outside of policing, Newham Council becomes the first local authority to evict tenants for racial harassment (McDonnell case).</p> <p>Sources: Fekete, R&C Vol. 28, 4, 1987; Desai, R&C, Vol 29, no 2, 1987.</p>
April 1984	<p>Newham 7 defence campaign formed after seven Asian youths confront white racists after sustained racial violence in Newham.</p> <p>Source: Fekete, R&C Vol 27, 4, 1987.</p>
1985	<p>Clandestine Central Intelligence Unit reported to have been set up by Scotland Yard with a district network of officers and informants to gather information on political protest and tension in the community.</p> <p>Source: Bridges & Fekete, R&C, Volume 27, 1, 1985.</p>
September & October 1985	<p>Violent confrontations between young people and the police in Handsworth (Birmingham), Tottenham (Broadwater Farm) and Brixton. Cherry Groce is shot by police in Brixton and Cynthia Jarrett dies of a heart attack on Broadwater Farm. Police officers are authorised to use plastic bullets in England for the first time. Met commissioner Sir Kenneth Newman puts London on notice that he would not hesitate to use plastic bullets in the future. Police siege of Broadwater Farm and mass arrests follow the killing of PC Keith Blakelock.</p> <p>Sources: Sivanandan, R&C, Vol 27, 3, 1986; Levidow, R&C, Vol 29, 1, 1987; Fekete, R&C, Vol 54, 3, 2013.</p>
1986	<p>Police Federation takes out an injunction against Thames Television to prevent broadcasting of a documentary that attempts to piece together the last minutes of the life of black Hell's Angel John Mikkelson who died after contact with police in 1985.</p> <p>Source: Fekete, R&C, Vol 28, 4, 1987.</p>

1986	<p>Public Order Act 1986 gives police extensive new powers to control public assemblies and demonstrations, new statutory offences of riot and affray (replacing common-law offences), new offences of ‘violent disorder’ and ‘threatening, abusive or insulting behaviour’, also allowing for longer periods of interrogation under the PTA.</p> <p>Sources: [Discussion of Bill that preceded the Act] Bridges, R&C, Source: Bridges, R&C, Vol 27, 4, 1986; Peirce, Vol 31, 3, 1990; [For current use against Palestinian solidarity activists], Fekete, Vol 66, 1, 2024.</p>
March 1987	<p>Winston Silcott, Mark Braithwaite and Engin Raghip (Tottenham 3) convicted of the murder of PC Braithwaite on Broadwater Farm during the 1985 uprising.</p> <p>Sources: Levidow, R&C, Vol 29, 1, 1987; Peirce, R&C, Vol 31, 3, 1990; Fekete, Vol 54, no 3, 2013.</p>
October 1989	<p>The Guildford Four (Patrick Armstrong, Gerald Conlon, Paul Hill and Carole Richardson), wrongly convicted in 1975 and given life sentences for IRA pub bombings in Guildford and Woolwich, are released after their convictions are quashed by the Court of Appeal.</p> <p>Source: Peirce, R&C Vol 31, 3, 1990.</p>

1990s – 00s

1991	Support Against Racial Incidents (SARI) formed in Bristol. Source: Das, R&C, Vol 48, 4, 2007.
1991	The IRR publishes Deadly Silence which records 76 black deaths in police, prisons and special hospitals, resulting in just one prosecution. Sources: Sivanandan, R&C 33, 1, 1991; Athwal, R&C, 56, 3, 2015; Fero, Vol 57, 1, 2015.
1991	Criminal Justice Act 1991 introduces electronic monitoring (tagging) in England and Wales for criminal sentencing and punishment. Source: Bhatia, R&C, Vol 63, 3, 2021.
1991	Football (Offences) Act 1991 outlaws racist chanting at football matches and the throwing of objects on the field. Source: Thomas, R&C Vol 36, 4 1995; Bourne, R&C, Vol 44, 2, 2002.
March 1991	Birmingham Six (six Northern Irishmen sentenced to life imprisonment for the 1974 Birmingham pub bombings) are released from prison after the Court of Appeal deems their convictions unsafe. Source: Yaqoob, R&C Vol 48, no 4, 2007.
October 1991	Zairean asylum seeker, Omasase Lumumba , a nephew of Patrice Lumumba, the first prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Congo, dies after being restrained by six prison officers in Pentonville prison, where he awaits a decision on his asylum claim. Source: Fero, R&C Vol 57, 1, 2015.
November 1991	Three black men (the Tottenham 3 : Winston Silcott, Engin Raghip and Mark Braithwaite), cleared by the Court of Appeal of the murder of PC Blakelock during the 1985 uprising on Broadwater Farm. Source: Peirce, R&C, Vol. 31,3, 1990; [For reopening of the case in 2003 and further arrests], Fekete, Vol 54, 3, 2013.

1993	<p>Publication of the seminal study by Paddy Hillyard, <i>Suspect Community: People's Experience of the Prevention of Terrorism Acts in Britain</i> (published by Pluto Press).</p> <p>Source: R&C, Käyhkö, Vol, 66, 5, 2025.</p>
1993	<p>Royal Commission on Criminal Justice, established in 1991 to examine the effectiveness of the English criminal justice system, particularly to secure convictions without convicting the innocent, recommends limits on the right to jury trial, a proposal subsequently taken up by New Labour.</p> <p>Source: Bridges, R&C, Vol 43, 2, 2001.</p>
18 April 1993	<p>Death of Stephen Lawrence (see publication of Macpherson report, 1999). For death of Stephen Lawrence and racist murders before and since.</p> <p>Source: Athwal, R&C, Vol. 43, no. 2, 2001; [for murder convictions against Gary Dobson and David Norris], Burnett, R&C, Vol 54, 1, 2012; [for post-Macpherson racist murders], Athwal and Burnett, R&C, Vol 56, 1, 2014.</p>
1 August 1993	<p>Jamaican Joy Gardner dies four days after going into a coma following a deportation raid in north London in which an immigration official and police officers from the Alien Deportation Group gag her with thirteen feet of adhesive tape and apply a body belt and handcuffs.</p> <p>Sources: Athwal, R&C, Vol 56, 3, 2015; [for media defamation of Joy Gardner], Erfani-Ghettani, R&C, Vol 56, 3, 2015; Fero, R&C, Vol 57, 1, 2015; O'Neill, R&C, Vol 67, 3, 2026.</p>
1994	<p>The Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 criminalises trespass and scraps the requirement placed on local authorities to provide Gypsies and Travellers with caravan sites. Section 60 allows police to stop individuals without reasonable suspicion 'in anticipation of violence'.</p> <p>Source: Fekete, R&C, Vol 54, 3, 2013.</p>
1995	<p>A section is added to the Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act 1989 which makes it a criminal offence to be in possession of items that could be used for terrorism abroad.</p> <p>Source: Peirce/Fekete, R&C, Vol 43, 2, 2001.</p>

January 1995	<p>European Council Resolution on the Lawful Interception of Telecommunications establishes requirements for network and service providers to allow law enforcement including the FBI access to telecommunications.</p> <p>Source: Bunyan, R&C, Vol 50, 3, 2010.</p>
June 1995	<p>Three Alien Deportation Group officers are cleared on charges of the manslaughter of Joy Gardner. At the trial they say they regularly use mouth gags, body-belts and leather straps to restrain people being deported.</p> <p>Source: Athwal, R&C, Vol 56, 3, 2015; Erfani-Ghettani, Vol 56, 3, 2015; Fero, R&C, Vol 57, 1, 2015.</p>
1997	<p>Islamic Human Rights Commission formed.</p> <p>Sources: [for IHRC campaigns], Faridi, R&C, Vol 48, 4, 2007, Fekete, Vol 54, 3, 2013.</p>
1997	<p>Michael Manson dies in January after being set alight near his home in Edmonton. Police response is criticised. In October, the body of Asian student Ricky Reel, who had been racially abused and attacked by a gang of white men, is found in the Thames shortly after the Macpherson inquiry had started hearing evidence. Police investigation is criticised.</p> <p>Source: Athwal, R&C, Vol 43, 2, 2001.</p>
1998	<p>Crime and Disorder Act 1998 establishes penalty enhancements for a range of racially aggravated offences.</p> <p>Sources: Bridges, R&C, Vol 43, 2, 2001; Bourne, R&C, Vol. 44, 2, 2002; Burnett, R&C, Vol 54, 4, 2013; Athwal and Burnett, R&C, Vol 56, 1, 2014.</p>
1998	<p>The Criminal Justice (Terrorism and Conspiracy) Act 1998 makes it a criminal offence, triable in Britain, to conspire to commit an offence abroad.</p> <p>Source: Peirce/Fekete, R&C, Vol 43, 2, 2001.</p>
1998	<p>The United Families and Friends campaign (UFFC) is set up by a coalition of family campaigns who call for the immediate prosecution of police officers for manslaughter or murder following a death in police custody.</p> <p>Source: Fero, R&C, Vol 57, 1, 2015; [for further discussion of UFFC], Bruce-Jones, R&C, Vol 62, 3, 2021.; O'Neill, R&C, Vol. 67, 3, 2026.</p>

1998	<p>Human Rights Act 1998, which incorporates the European Convention on Human Rights into British law, receives Royal Assent. (It came into force in October 2000.) Soon dubbed a ‘criminal charter’ by the Right who advocate leaving the European Court of Human Rights, highlighting the case of the Jordanian cleric Abu Qatada.</p> <p>Source: Webber, R&C, Vol 43, 2, 2001; Webber, Vol 55, No 2, 2013; [for case of Abu Qatada] Brittain, R&C, Vol 50, 3, 2009; Webber, R&C, Vol 64, 2, 2022.</p>
1998	<p>Trident police unit formed by Metropolitan police initially to address ‘black on black’ gun crime. Source: [For Operation Trident-linked killing of Mark Duggan], Bridges, R&C, Vol 54, 1, 2012; Fekete, R&C, Vol, 54, 3, 2013. Disruption units also set up in other parts of the country including Liverpool (The Matrix) and Manchester (Xcalibre Task Force). Source: Williams, Vol 56, 3, 2015. [For Trident Matrix which grew out of Operation Trident], Fekete, R&C, Vol 59, 3, 2018.</p>
April 1998	<p>Christopher Alder, a former Black paratrooper, is found dead at Queens Garden police station, Kingston upon Hull.</p> <p>Sources: Athwal, R&C, Vol 43, 2, 2001; O’Neill, R&C, Vol. 67, 3, 2026.</p>
January 1999	<p>Roger Sylvester, who had mental health problems, dies after being detained outside his home in Tottenham.</p> <p>Source: Athwal, R&C, Vol 43, 2, 2001; Erfani-Ghettani, R&C, Vol 56, 3, 2015.</p>
February 1999	<p>The Stephen Lawrence Inquiry (also known as the Macpherson report) published. [For criticisms of Macpherson] Bridges, R&C, Vol 43, 2, 2001. [For criticism of the justice system’s failures vis a vis specific recommendations on racial violence], Athwal, R&C, Vol 43, 2, 2001; Burnett, R&C, Vol 54, 1, 2012, Athwal and Burnett, R&C, Vol 56, 1, 2014. [For a BLM abolitionist perspective on Macpherson as well as a description of the impact of the Stephen Lawrence campaign on Macpherson], Elliott-Cooper, R&C, Vol 65, 1, 2023.</p>
August 1999	<p>Publication of Attorney-General, Lord Goldsmith’s Inquiry into Crown Prosecution Service Decision-Making in Relation to Deaths in Custody and Related Matters forces the CPS to review its decision-making processes following deaths in police custody.</p> <p>Source: Fero, R&C, Vol 57, 1, 2015.</p>
September 1999	<p>Report of the Independent Commission on Policing in Northern Ireland published (the Patten Commission).</p> <p>Source: McVeigh and Rolston, R&C, Vol 48, 4, 2007; Holder, R&C, Vol 54, 3, 2013.</p>

2000s – 10s

2000	<p>Race Relations Amendment Act 2000 extends the application of the 1976 Act to the police and other public authorities and places a duty on public authorities to actively promote race equality.</p> <p>Source: Burnett, R&C, Vol 54, 1, 2012.</p>
2000	<p>Terrorism Act 2000, the first permanent anti-terrorist law in 25 years, expands the scope of groups designated as terrorist to include both domestic and international terrorism, with a Proscribed Organisations List banning 21 organisations, and other provisions impacting on refugee communities in the UK. Schedule 7 allows for stops at ports and airports.</p> <p>Source: Peirce/Fekete, R&C, Vol 43, 2, 2001; Fekete, Vol 43, 2, 2001; Fekete R&C, Vol 46, 1, 2004; Vol 54, 3, 2013; Gray, Vol 48, 4, 2007; Fekete, Vol 54, 3, 2013; [For current use against Palestinian solidarity activists], Fekete, Vol 66, 1, 2024; K�yhk�, R&C, Vol 66. 4. 2025.</p>
2000	<p>Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 introduced, preventing disclosure and discussion of intercept evidence in legal proceedings, including inquests. Subsequently, the inquest into the death of Azelle Rodney, shot dead in north London in 2005 by armed officers, is abandoned by the coroner on the grounds that it was impossible to proceed because large parts of the witness statements had been redacted.</p> <p>Source: Fekete, R&C Vol 54, 3, 2013; [for further discussion of death of Azelle Rodney], O'Neill, R&C, Vol 67, 3, 2026.</p>
2001	<p>Anti-Terrorism Crime & Security Act 2001 introduces internment without trial for foreign terror suspects, empowers the authorities to seize property or cash and to freeze bank accounts, Also extends racially aggravated offences to religiously aggravated offences.</p> <p>Source: [for racially aggravated offences], Bourne, Vol 44, 2, 2002; [for other measures], Fekete, Vol 46, 1, 2004; Gray, Vol 48, 4, 2007; [for SIAC procedures] Peirce, R&C, Vol 48, 4, 2007; Brittain, R&C, Vol 50, 3, 2009; Fekete, Vol 54, 3, 2013; also, Gray <i>ibid</i>.</p>

March 2001	Revised Proscribed Organisations List includes the PKK and the military wing of Hamas. Campaign Against Criminalising Communities (CAMPACC) launched in response to Proscribed Organisations List brought in following Terrorism Act 2000. Source: Fekete, R&C, Vol 46, 1, 2004. Gray, Vol 48, 4, 2007; Käyhkö, R&C, Vol 66, 4, 2025.
April-July 2001	Violent confrontations between young Asians and the police in the northern towns including Oldham, Burnley and Bradford, follow the police' failure to protect Asian communities from racist gangs. Source: Kundnani, R&C Vol 43, 2, 2001.
July 2001	After threats of legal action by the police, two venues attempt to pull the plug on screenings of the Migrant Media documentary Injustice which tells the story of black deaths in custody from 1993 to 1999. Source: Fero, R&C, Vol 57, 1, 2015.
August 2001	Asylum seeker Firsat Dag , dispersed to the Sighthill estate in Glasgow, is stabbed to death in a racist attack. Source: Burnett, R&C, Vol 54. 1, 2012.
November 2001	Police Service of Northern Ireland established. Office of the Police Ombudsman of Northern Ireland had been established a year earlier. Source: McVeigh and Rolston, R&C Vol 48, 4, 2007; Holder, R&C, vol 54, 3, 2013; [For impact of Legacy Act on police accountability mechanisms], McGovern, R&C, Vol 64, 3, 2023.
December 2001	The EU Common Positions and Framework Decision on combating terrorism broadens the definition of terrorism to include any action designed to 'seriously damage a country or international organisation' or that unduly compel[led] a government to act in a particular way, also creating new crimes of association with terrorism. Source: Fekete, Vol 46, 1, 2004.
December 2001	Home Office publishes <i>Community Cohesion: A Report of the Independent Review Team (Cantle Report)</i> , paving the way for community cohesion to be officially adopted as government policy. The report creates the concept of 'parallel lives' to describe communities that have little or no contact with each other.

	Sources: R&C Burnett, Vol 45, 3, 2004; Burnett, Vol 56, 3, 2007; Ouseley, Vol 48, 4, 2007.
2002	Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002 , preceded by the White Paper <i>Secure Borders, Safe Haven</i> , allows for deprivation of citizenship of dual-national British citizens. Section 72 sets lower bar for deportation for a 'particularly serious crime'. Sources: Kundnani, R&C Vol 48, 4, 2007; [for Section 72], Fekete and Webber, R&C, Vol 51, 4, 2010; Webber, R&C, Vol 64, 2, 2022.
2002	National Pupil Database introduced, paving the way for data collection on children, from birth, with personal details, school record and behaviour. Source: Bunyan, R&C Vol 51, 3, 2010
November 2002	<i>Sunday Times</i> claims on its front page that MI5 had foiled a poison-gas attack on the underground, the so-called ' ricin plot ' that led to arrests under the Terrorism Act 2000 and a hysterical campaign about a plot that never was. Source: Fekete, R&C, Vol 46, 1, 2004.
2003	Cageprisoners formed to raise awareness about the plight of 'war on terror' detainees. Sources: Qureshi, R&C, Vol 48, 4, 2007; [for work with Guantánamo detainees], Fekete, R&C, Vol 54, 3, 2013.
2003	Criminal Justice Act 2003 allows for greater admissibility of hearsay evidence, changes the law on double jeopardy paving the way for a retrial in the Stephen Lawrence case, and requires racial and religious hostility to be treated as an aggravating factor in sentencing. Sources: Fekete, Vol 54, 3, 2013; Burnett, R&C, Vol 54, 1, 2012; Burnett, R&C, Vol 54, 4, 2013; Athwal and Burnett, Vol 56, 1, 2014.
2003	Counter-terrorism strategy Contest first introduced. Source: Institute of Race Relations, R&C Vol 51, no 3, 2010.
2003	Extradition Act 2003 transposes the European Arrest Warrant framework decision into British law and implements the UK side of the controversial UK–US extradition treaty of 2003. Source: Qureshi, R&C, Vol 48, 4, 2007.

January 2003	Six people arrested in the so-called Wood Green ricin bioterrorism plot to attack the London Underground. Source: Fekete, R&C Vol 46, 1, 2004. Gray, Vol 48,4, 2007.
March 2003	New Labour's White Paper <i>Respect and Responsibility – Taking a Stand against Anti-Social Behaviour</i> , with a ministerial foreword by David Blunkett, advocates enlarging the police 'family' and legislative extension of police powers to other agents. Source: Burnett, R&C Vol 45, 2004.
September 2003	Michael ' Mikey Powell', 38, died of asphyxiation shortly after being arrested by police in Birmingham. Source: Erfani-Ghettani, R&C, Vol 56, 3, 2015.
2004	In Shafiq Rasul vs George W. Bush (542 U.S. 466) the US Supreme Court rules, in relation to one of the Tipton 3 (Muslim men rendered from Afghanistan to Guantanamo Bay and eventually released in March 2024), that habeas corpus is available to an 'alien' held by the military as an enemy combatant outside the US but under its control. Source: Peirce, R&C Vol 48, 4, 2007.
2004	Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants) Act 2004 extends the use of electronic tagging to immigration control. Source: Bhatia, R&C, Vol 62, 3, 2021.
March 2004	Three British Muslim citizens, the Tipton 3 , are repatriated from Guantanamo Bay to the UK and released without charge the next day. Source: Peirce, R&C, Vol 48, 4, 2007
March 2004	Prisons and Probation Ombudsman for England and Wales publishes <i>Investigation into allegations of racism, abuse and violence at Yarl's Wood Removal Centre</i> . This first inquiry into racism in an immigration removal centre was prompted by a <i>Daily Mirror</i> undercover operation. Source: Athwal, R&C, Vol 56, 3, 2015.
February 2004	A dozen Arab and Algerian refugees, arrested in December 2001 and detained without trial at Belmarsh prison, pen an open letter <i>The Forgotten Detainees</i> . Source: Brittain, R&C, Vol 50, 3, 2009.

April 2004	Shahid Aziz is murdered in Armley prison, Leeds, by his cell mate who objected to sharing his cell with an Asian man. Police initially claim no racist element. Source: Burnett, R&C, 54, 1, 2012.
April 2004	The Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC) , established by the Police Reform Act 2002, starts operations, replacing the discredited Police Complaints Authority whereby police investigated themselves following a death in police custody. Source: Fero, R&C, Vol 57, 1, 2015.
November 2004	Ian Macdonald QC, representing a stateless Palestinian from a Gaza family, <u>resigns</u> as a Special Immigrations Appeals Commission (SIAC) special advocate on the grounds that his role was 'to provide a false legitimacy to indefinite detention'. Source: Brittain, R&C Vol 50, 3, 2009.
December 2004	The Law Lords rule that indefinite detention of foreign nationals under anti-terrorist laws is discriminatory and unlawful. Source: Sivanandan, R&C, Vol 47, 3, 2006; Gray, Vol 48, 4, 2007; Brittain, R&C, Vol 50, 3, 2009.
2005	Prevention of Terrorism Act 2005 introduces control orders (house arrest and electronic tagging) to replace detention without trial and establishes a new crime of disseminating 'terrorist publications'. Source: Sivanandan, R&C, Vol 47, 3, 2006; Gray, Vol 48, 4, 2007; [for mental health impact of control orders], Brittain, R&C, Vol 50, 3, 2009.
2005	Operation Matrix , similar to Operation Trident, set up in Merseyside. Source: Fekete, R&C, Vol 54, 3, 2013; Williams, R&C, Vol 56,3, 2015.
January 2005	Moazzam Begg is released from Guantanamo Bay where he had been held for three years. Source: Yaqoob, R&C, Vol 48, 4, 2007.
7 July 2005	Suicide bombers plant bombs on the London Underground leading to the deaths of 52 people and 770 injuries. Foreign nationals released following the Law Lords ruling of December 2004 against detention without trial, are rearrested and placed under house arrest. Source: Sivanandan, R&C, Vol 47, 3, 2006; Brittain, Vol 50, 3, 2009.

July 2005	Kamal Raza Butt is killed in Nottingham by youths who shout ‘Taliban’ before setting upon him. Police response criticised. Source: Faridi, R&C, Vol. 48, 4, 2007; Burnett, R&C, Vol 54, 1, 2012.
22 July 2005	Jean Charles de Menezes , a Brazilian electrician is shot dead at Stockwell underground station in London by police, who suspected him of being a terrorist connected to the attempted London bombings the previous day, 21 July. Sources: Victor, Vol 48, 4, 2007; Erfani-Ghettani, R&C, Vol 56, 3, 2015; Fekete, R&C, Vol 67, 2, 2025; O'Neill, R&C, Vol 67, 3, 2026.
September 2005	Angolan asylum seeker Manuel Bravo takes his own life in Yarl’s Wood IRC in the hope that this would allow his young son to stay safely in the UK. The local community subsequently form the Manuel Bravo Project to help refugees and asylum seekers get the help they need Source: Athwal, R&C, Vol 56, 3, 2015.
November 2005	Riots erupt in the Lozells area of Birmingham , after pirate radio claims that a Jamaican girl has been raped by Asians. Source: Yaqoob, R&C, Vol 48, 4, 2007.
2006	Terrorism Act 2006 expands definition of terrorism and creates new terrorism offences, making it an offence to ‘glorify’ any ‘act of terrorism’ anywhere in the world. Source: Sivanandan, R&C, Vol. 47, 3, 2006; Fekete, Vol 54, 3, 2013.
2006	Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act 2006 lowers the threshold for deprivation of citizenship of dual-national British citizens to a simple ‘conducive to the public good’ test. Source: Kundnani, R&C, Vol 48, 4, 2007; Webber, R&C, Vol 64, 2, 2022.
April 2006	‘Foreign prisoners’ scandal leads to the resignation of the Labour home secretary Charles Clarke. Source: Fekete & Webber, R&C, Vol 51, 4, 2010.
June 2006	In the context of scare scenarios about terrorist related chemical warfare, 250 police raid two homes in Forest Gate, east London in a massive operation that does not result in charges for terrorist offences. Source: Viktor, R&C Vol 48, 4, 2007.

June 2006	The government publishes the Report of the Zahid Mubarek inquiry into the death of a 19- year-old teenager stabbed to death by his racist cellmate at Feltham Young Offenders Institution. 186 institutional failures that preceded Mubarek’s death are noted. Source: Athwal and Burnett, R&C, Vol 56, 1, 2014.\
2007	Specific provisions of the UK Borders Act 2007 introduce automatic deportation for many criminal offences leading subsequently to a fivefold increase in deportations. Source: Fekete & Webber, R&C, Vol 51, 4, 2010.
2008	Criminal Justice and Immigration Act 2008 allows any foreign national convicted and sentenced to two years or more, or convicted of an offence specified as serious, and who cannot be deported because deportation would breach their human rights, to be designated as having a ‘special immigration status’, also stripping the offender’s family members of their immigration status. Source: Fekete and Webber, R&C, Vol 51, 4, 2010.
June 2008	Home Office launches Tackling Knives Action Plan , pledging £2 million funding for the ten police force areas in England and Wales judged to be most affected by knife crime. Source: Wood, R&C, Vol 52, 2, 2010.
July 2008	Government launches a Youth Crime Action Plan with £100 million of funding, targeting ‘problem families’, lifting blanket anonymity for 16- and 17-year -old offenders and increasing stop and search powers. Source: Wood, R&C, Vol 52, 2, 2010.
2009	Coroners and Justice Act 2009 codifies the circumstances in which an inquest must be held following a ‘violent or unnatural death’ or when someone dies which in ‘custody or otherwise in state detention’ or when the cause of death is unknown, and replaces Criminal Evidence (Witness Anonymity) Act 2008, setting out criteria and procedures for anonymous witness evidence to be presented in courts. Source: Fekete, R&C Vol 54, 3, 2013; O’Neill, R&C, Vol 67, 3, 2026.
2009	Independent Advisory Panel on Deaths in Custody (IAPDC) , a non-departmental public body co-sponsored by the Ministry of Justice, the Home Office, and the Department of Health and Social Care is formed.

	Source: Athwal, R&C, Vol 65, 3, 2015.
2009	IRR publishes <i>Spooked: how not to prevent violent extremism</i> , by Arun Kundnani, a detailed account of the Prevent programme. Source: IRR, R&C, Vol 51, 3, 2010. [for the mental health implications of Prevent and an analysis of Prevent training materials], Younis, R&C, Vol 62, 3, 2021.
June 2009	Court of Appeal finds the Specification of Particularly Serious Crimes Order 2004 unlawful as it mandates deportation of refugees for minor offences and is incompatible with the Refugee Convention. Source: Fekete & Webber, R&C, Vol 51, 4, 2010.
September 2009	UK parliament's Communities and Local Government Select Committee inquiry into the government's Preventing Violent Extremism Programme (Prevent) . Source: IRR, R&C, Vol 51, 3, 2010.

2010s – 20s

12 October 2010	<p>Jimmy Mubenga dies on the floor of a British Airways plane at Heathrow, after being restrained by three guards from G4S, during an attempt to deport him to Angola. Mubenga was heard to say ‘I can’t breathe, I can’t breathe’ before he collapsed. Source: Athwal, R&C, Vol 56, 3, 2015.</p>
January 2011	<p>A front-page report in <i>The Times</i> (‘Revealed: conspiracy of silence on UK sex gangs’) claims to have uncovered a new racial crime threat, dubbed ‘on-street grooming’. This denotes the beginning of the construction of the ‘Asian sex gang predator’ as the new racialised folk devil. Source: Cockbain, R&C, Vol 54, 4, 2013; Cockbain and Tufail, R&C, Vol 61, 3, 2020.</p>
April 2011	<p>Following a raid by 160 riot police on a squad in the Stokes Croft area, riots break out in Bristol (Tesco riots). Source: Clement, R&C, Vol 53, no 3, 2012.</p>
August 2011	<p>In the most widespread public disorders in its history, England experiences riots or other public disturbances in sixty-six locations, precipitated by the police shooting of Mark Duggan following a hard stop by Metropolitan police anti-gun crime unit Operation Trident. A post-riot operation Operation Withern relying on analysis of CCTV footage is launched and ‘rioters’ are severely dealt with by courts at all-night sittings. The government announces a huge expansion in police riot training, advocacy of the use of water cannon and plastic bullets in future ‘riot’ situations. Source: Bridges, R&C, Vol 54, 1, 2012; For media defamation of Mark Duggan], Erfani-Ghattani, R&C, Vol 56, 3, 2015; Fekete, Vol 64, 1, 2022; Fekete, R&C, Vol 67, 2, 2025.</p> <p>The government attributes the ‘riots’ to ‘gangs’ and Serious Youth Violence, initiating the Ending Gangs and Youth Violence programme Source: Williams, R&C, Vol 56, 3, 2015; Koch, Williams, Wroe, R&C, Vol 65, 3, 2024.</p>
October- November 2011	<p>Joint Enterprise Not Guilty By Association (JENGbA), representing at least 265 prisoners maintaining innocence (59%) from BME communities,</p>

	<p>present evidence at the House of Commons Justice Committee's inquiry into joint enterprise.</p> <p>Source: Bridges, R&C, Vol 54, 4, 2013.</p>
December 2011	<p>LSE/Guardian publish <i>Reading the Riots: Investigating England's Summer of disorder</i> which points to the unjust suspicion and humiliation sparked by stop and search as a significant factor in the Summer riots.</p> <p>Source: Bridges, R&C, Vol 54, 1, 2010.</p>
December 2011	<p>Terrorism Prevention and Investigation Measures Act 2011 replaces control orders with TPIMS that combine constant surveillance with severe restriction on movement and communication.</p> <p>Source: Webber, R&C, Vol 64, 2, 2022.</p>
	<p>Northern Police Monitoring Project formed in Manchester by community activists, academics, lawyers and youth workers.</p> <p>Source: O'Neill, R&C, Vol 67, 3, 2026.</p>
2012	<p>The Metropolitan police launch the Gangs Matrix, a database on people considered to be at risk of involvement in gang-related violence, in response to the London riots of 2011.</p> <p>Source: Fekete, Vol 64, 1, 2022. [For comparison with 'county line' cohorts], Koch, Williams, Wroe, R&C, Vol 65, 3, 2024.</p>
January 2012	<p>Two men found guilty of the murder of Stephen Lawrence.</p> <p>Source: Burnett, R&C, Vol 54, 1, 2012</p>
March 2012	<p>The Riots, Communities and Victims Panel (set up on a cross-party basis after the August 2011 'riots) publishes <i>After the Riots</i> that locates the causes of the disturbances in rioters lack of 'resilience', 'inability to defer gratification', 'ill-discipline, absent fathers and lack of 'proper role models'.</p> <p>Source: Bridges, R&C, Vol 54, 1, 2012.</p>
September 2012	<p>Report of the Independent Panel on the Hillsborough disaster, in which 97 Liverpool supporters died, is published.</p> <p>Source: Scraton, R&C, Vol 55, 2, 2013.</p>

September 2012	<p>Crown Prosecution Service guidelines on joint enterprise prosecutions, drafted as a response to the Justice Committee inquiry, fail to clarify the law. Source: Bridges, R&C, Vol 54, 4, 2013.</p>
2013	<p>Justice and Security Act 2013 allows for the introduction of closed material procedures (CMP), in cases involving national security. Source: [For a discussion of the bill that preceded it, and implications for Northern Ireland], Holder, R&C, Vol 54, 3, 2013.</p>
2014	<p>Immigration Act 2014 introduces landlords' immigration checks for prospective tenants' and denies hospital care to the undocumented, extending the scope of those who carry out immigration controls. It also allows for citizenship to be removed from sole-national naturalised citizens in the UK. Source: Webber [on public consultations that preceded the act], R&C, Vol 55, 3, 2014 [on citizenship stripping], Webber, R&C, Vol 64, 2, 2022.</p>
January 2014	<p>An inquest jury finds that Mark Duggan, whose death at the hands of the police sparked nationwide unrest in 2011, was lawfully killed. Source: Erfani-Ghattani, R&C, Vol 56, 3, 2015.</p>
2015	<p>Revised Prevent Duty Guidance for England and Wales puts all public bodies under a duty to ensure staff receive Prevent training. Source: Younis, R&C, Vol 62, 3, 2022.</p>
2015	<p>Modern Slavery Act 2015 consolidates previous legislation around human trafficking and modern slavery, paving the way for 'county lines' to be treated as a form of modern slavery. Now drug dealers can be prosecuted for human trafficking offences and defendants on trial for drugs can run the 'exploitation defence'. Source: Koch, Williams, Wroe, R&C, Vol 65, 3, 2024.</p>
March 2015	<p>The IRR publishes <i>Dying for Justice</i> which gives the background on 509 people (an average of twenty-two per year) from BAME, refugee and migrant communities who died between 1991-2014 in suspicious circumstances in which police, prison authorities or immigration detention officers have been implicated.</p>

	Source: Athwal, R&C, Vol 56, 3, 2015.
January 2016	Home Office introduces refreshed Ending Gang Violence and Exploitation (EGVE) strategy with a focus on reducing gang-related violence and protecting vulnerable individuals from exploitation by gangs. Source: Koch, Williams, Wroe, R&C, Vol 65, 3, 2024.
February 2016	In <i>R v Jogee</i> [2016] UKSC 8 , the Supreme Court rules that the law on joint enterprise has been misinterpreted for three decades and that, as a result, a higher threshold of proof of involvement in group crimes is now required. Source: Bridges, R&C, Vol 59, 3, 2018.
January 2017	Report of the <i>Independent Review of Deaths and Serious Incidents in Police Custody (Angiolini review)</i> published. Source: Bruce-Jones, R&C, Vol 62, 3, 2021.
August 2017	Sarah Champion , Labour MP for Rotherham, resigns from the Labour frontbench after writing an article for <i>The Sun</i> newspaper entitled 'British Pakistani men ARE raping and exploiting white girls... and it's time we faced up to it'. Source: Cockbain and Tufail, R&C, Vol 61, 3, 2020.
September 2017	Publication of the Lammy Review : an independent review into the treatment of, and outcomes for, Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic individuals in the Criminal Justice System. Source: Fekete, R&C, Vol 59, 3, 2018; Bridges, R&C, Vol 59, 3, 2018.
January 2019	Home Office publish 'Joint action plan by the UK and France on combating illegal migration involving small boats in the English channel' which is followed by the deportation of Channel Crossing migrants under the Dublin convention. Source: Maggs, R&C, Vol 61, 3, 2020.
February 2019	After British-born Shamima Begum , who joined ISIS aged 15, asks to be allowed to return home, Home Secretary Sajid Javid strips her of her citizenship. Source: Younis, R&C, Vol 62, 3, 2021; Webber, R&C, Vol 64, 2, 2022.

October 2019	The bodies of 39 Vietnamese nationals are found in the back of a refrigerated lorry container in Essex, leading to calls for tougher action against smugglers and traffickers. Source: Maggs, R&C, Vol 61, 3, 2020; Stephens, R&C, Vol 61, 3, 2020.
December 2019	The wrongful conviction on a majority verdict of the Oval 4 , including Black Power activist Winston Trew, is overturned by the Court of Appeal. Source: Waller and Sakande, R&C, Vol 65, 4, 2024.

2020s

March 2020	<p>Coronavirus Act and Health Protection (Coronavirus) Regulations 2020 grant unprecedented powers to police which are disproportionately used against BME communities. Source: Harris et al, R&C, Vol 63, 3, 2022.</p>
May 2020	<p>Violence Suppression Units, staffed by local officers, are first introduced in London, subsequently becoming part of each of London's 12 Basic Command Units. Source: Webber, R&C, 64, 4, 2023.</p>
June 2020	<p>Following killing of George Floyd in the US, Black Lives Matter protests are held across the UK. Source: Harris et al, R&C, Vol 63, 3, 2022; [for backlash to BLM from police trades unions], Fekete, R&C, 64, 1, 2022.</p>
October 2020	<p>Relatives for Justice publish <i>Plastic Justice: A report on the use of Plastic and Rubber Bullets in Ireland</i>, that documents the deaths of seventeen people between 1972-1979 as a result of the use of plastic or rubber bullets by the British army. Source: Fekete, R&C, Vol 67, 2, 2025.</p>
March 2021	<p>Hundreds of Muslim organisations and key human rights groups boycott the Prevent review after the appointment as chair of William Shawcross, a former director of the Henry Jackson Society. Source: Webber, R&C, Vol 64, 2, 2022.</p>
2022	<p>The family-led #End Police Pursuits campaign is formed in Manchester following the deaths in 2021 of three boys (Brandon Geasley, Devonte Scott, Ronaldo Johnson) following police pursuits by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) Source?</p>
February 2022	<p>Metropolitan police commissioner Cressida Dick resigns after the IOPC publishes a damning report on police misconduct at Charing Cross police station which included sharing brutal misogynistic, homophobic and racist messages on social media. Source: Fekete, R&C, Vol 64, 1, 2022.</p>

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February 2022	Following a huge campaign against Clause 9 of the Nationality and Borders Bill (deprivation of citizenship without prior warning), introduced in 2021, the House of Lords rejects the clause, sending it back to the House of Commons where it is amended so as to restrict no-notice deprivation to specific scenarios. Source: Webber, R&C, Vol 64, 2, 2022.
April 2022	Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 introduces Serious Violence Reduction Orders , restricts the right to protest, and introduces a police covenant, a declaration of support for police. Source [For bill that preceded the Act], Webber, R&C, Vol 63, 4, 2022; Fekete, Vol 64, 1; [for Act] Webber, R&C, Vol 64 4, 2023, [for Serious Violence Reduction Orders], Quinn, R&C, 65, 4, 2024.
April 2022	Nationality and Borders Act 2022 broadens the scope of criminal offences for irregular arrival, including small boat crossings, making it possible to prosecute those who arrive without a valid entry clearance Source: [For bill that preceded the Act], Webber, R&C, Vol 63, 4, 2022.
April 2022	Judicial Review and Courts Act 2022 makes significant changes to judicial review, making it more difficult to challenge decisions by public bodies. Source: [for Bill that preceded the Act], Webber, R&C, Vol 63, 4, 2022.
May 2022	Police strip searching of schoolchildren becomes a national issue, after revelations concerning the strip search of Child Q in a Hackney school. Source: Webber, R&C, Vol 64, 4, 2023.
June 2022	Oladeji Omishore dies falling into the Thames from Chelsea Bridge, after the police tasered him a number of times. Source: Webber, R&C, Vol 64, 4, 2023.
September 2022	Chris Kaba , who is unarmed, is shot dead by a police firearms officer in Streatham Hill following a police car chase. Source: Webber, R&C, Vol 64, 4, 2023; Fekete, R&C, Vol 67, 2, 2025.
October 2022	Casey Interim Review , commissioned by the Met after the murder of Sarah Everard, finds the Met is riddled with institutional racism, misogyny and homophobia. Source: Webber, R&C, Vol 64, 4, 2023.

2023	Public Order Act 2023 gives police power to impose conditions on assemblies ‘to prevent serious public disorder, serious criminal damage or serious disruption to the life of the community (Serious Disruption Prevention Orders, SDPOs) Source: [for the Bill that preceded the Act], Webber, R&C, Vol 64, 4, 2023.
2023	Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Act 2023 prohibits the continuation of ‘legacy’ inquests, guaranteed by the Stormont House Agreement, along with civil actions arising from the ‘Troubles’. Source: [for Bill that preceded the Act], McGovern, R&C, Vol 64, 3, 2023; [for failure of Labour government to repeal the Act], Fekete, Vol 67, 2, 2025).
February 2023	A judicial review brought by JENGBA and Liberty against the Crown Prosecution Service’s failure to record data about the age, race, sex and disability of those prosecuted under the joint enterprise doctrine is successful. Source: Quinn, R&C, Vol 65, 4, 2024.
November 2023	Art Not Evidence , which calls for the restriction of the use of creative expression as evidence in criminal trials in England and Wales, is formed. Source: Quinn, R&C, Vol 65, 4, 2024.
November 2024	Armed police raid the Kurdish Community Centre in Haringey , north London and private addresses, leading to charges against six people for membership of a proscribed organisation. Source: Käyhkö, R&C, Vol 66, 4, 2025.
March 2025	At Organised Immigration Crime Summit , attended by world governments, Meta, X and Tik Box , home secretary announces over £30 million additional funding for a new Border Security Command. Source: Khiabany and Williamson, R&C, Vol 67, 2, 2025.
April 2025	The inaugural public session of the People’s Tribunal on Police Killings, a collective of campaign groups of families whose loved ones have died in custody, takes place in London. Source [for wider work of PTPK] O’Neill, R&C, Vol. 67, 3, 2026)
May 2025	The IRR publishes Paramilitary Policing Against the People that documents injuries and deaths caused by ‘less lethal weapons’ across Europe, at borders, during civil unrest and during public protests.

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	Source: Fekete, R&C, Vol 67, 2, 2025.
May 2025	Mo Chara, a member of the Irish language hip hop group Kneecap is charged with offences under anti-terrorism laws for allegedly showing support for a proscribed organisation by displaying a flag in support of Hezbollah at a gig in London. Source: Rolston, R&C, Vol 67, 2, 2025.
July 2025	Border Security Command officially launched to 'provide strategic leadership across the border security system to disrupt the activity of organised crime groups which facilitate irregular migration including small boat crossings'. Source: Khiabany and Williamson, Volume 67, 2, 2025.
July 2025	Project Play publishes 'We Want to Be Safe' documenting examples of children and babies coming to the UK on small boats from northern France being teargassed and subjected to tactics such as the discharge of plastic bullets. Source: Fekete, R&C, Vol. 67, 2, 2025.
December 2025	Border Security, Asylum and Immigration Law receives Royal Assent. It creates a number of new offences, such as putting lives at risk during a sea crossing, and further blurs the lines between criminal and immigration law. Source: (For bill that preceded the law), Khiabany and Williamson, R&C, Vol 67, 2, 2025.
December 2025	The Howard League for Penal Reform launches a judicial review against the government's decision to further sanction the use of PAVA spray in young offenders' institutions in England and Wales Source: Fekete, R&C, Vol. 67, 2, 2025.