



## LAWYERS FOR SECURE IMMIGRATION

July 1, 2025

### For Immediate Release

On **June 30, 2025**, the U.S. Department of State officially revoked the visas for UK punk-rap duo Bob Vylan, effectively banning them from entering the U.S. The move comes after frontman Bobby Vylan led a chant at the **Glastonbury Festival** calling for “death, death to the IDF” (Israel’s Defense Forces), which U.S. officials labeled a “hateful tirade,” and deemed incompatible with U.S. values. Videos from Glastonbury show Bobby Vylan leading chants like “Free, Free Palestine” followed by “Death, Death to the IDF” in front of roughly 200,000 attendees. U.S. officials described the chants as glorifying violence; the BBC acknowledged the broadcast was “utterly unacceptable,” issuing apologies, and the **UK Prime Minister, Avon & Somerset Police**, and UK media regulator **Ofcom** are also condemning the incident and reviewing it as a possible hate crime.

The band had planned 20 performances in major cities in the U.S. starting in October 2025, including Chicago, Denver, and others. The pre-emptive action in revoking visas by the U.S. Administration sends a clear message about the activities that foreign entertainers can engage in when performing in the United States.

The band’s talent agency, **United Talent Agency**, dropped them following the incident. The band is also scheduled to perform in Canada and will look to make up for lost revenues in the USA in Canada.

L4SI strongly condemns the hateful incitement of Bob Vylan at his concert, and we believe that Canada should take similar steps to stop the entry and revoke any and all visas for speakers, celebrities and performers (not limited to Bob Vylan) where that individual or group is a threat to the safety and security of those within our borders.



Canada has legal tools to bar entry to foreign nationals who are considered a threat to public order, national security, or who engage in hate speech, specifically:

#### CANADIAN MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 67049  
Ottawa RPO Westboro  
Ottawa, Ontario, K2A 4E4

#### U.S. MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 26  
New Milford  
New Jersey, 07646-9998

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- **Section 36(2)** of the **Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (IRPA)**: Inadmissibility on grounds of criminality, including crimes committed outside Canada that would be considered an offense under Canadian law (e.g., hate speech).
- **Section 34(1)(f)** of IRPA: Inadmissibility for engaging in acts of violence that could or do endanger others, including incitement.
- **Section 319 of the Criminal Code**: Criminalizes public incitement of hatred.

L4SI takes the firm position that Canada must refuse entry to speakers who promote hate, glorify terrorism, or incite violence. This has historically included figures associated with far-right extremism, antisemitism, and advocacy for terrorism. Canada must take a proactive measure against hate and let the world know that such behavior does not align with Canadian values.

We call on Ministers Lena Metlege Diab and Gary Anandasangaree to take immediate steps to ensure that the Bob Vylan Band have their etas or visas revoked so that concerts scheduled for Canada are cancelled. Individual seeking to cause division and spread hate in Canada must be barred from entering to Canada.

For further information on how the Government of Canada can improve security through immigration law tools please contact us at [infor@lawyers4secureimmigration.org](mailto:infor@lawyers4secureimmigration.org)