



## **BARCO Statement on Recent Far Right Violence and Threats**

Dear BARCO Community,

In light of the recent surge in far-right violence and threats targeting People of Colour and Muslims, and with intelligence indicating potential incidents in Brighton this week, we stand united in our commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive community for all.

The continued use of terms like 'protests', 'demonstrations' and 'anti-immigration groups' to describe the situations is incorrect, offensive and insulting to all people of colour. What we are witnessing is white supremacy, terrorism, Islamophobia and racism - make no mistake about it.

We understand that this news may instil fear and anxiety. It is natural to feel this way, but it is crucial to remember the strength and resilience that our community embodies. Throughout history, we have faced adversity with courage and unity, and we will continue to do so.

### **A Message of Solidarity**

To our beloved community members, know that you are not alone. BARCO stands firmly by your side. We are here to support and uplift each other in these trying times. Let us channel our collective strength and continue to create safe environments where everyone feels valued and protected.

### **Stay Safe and Vigilant**

We urge everyone to remain vigilant and take necessary precautions to ensure your safety:

- **Stay Informed:** Keep up-to-date with reliable news sources and community alerts.
- **Report Incidents:** If you witness or experience any threats or violence, report them immediately to local authorities and inform BARCO so we can warn others and support.
- **Travel in Groups:** Whenever possible, travel with trusted friends or family members. If that's not possible, tell someone where you are going and where you will be.
- **Avoid Risky Areas:** Be mindful of your surroundings and avoid areas where tensions may be heightened.

### **Our Commitment**

BARCO is monitoring the situation, in dialogue with Sussex Police as well as other community organisations to provide factual necessary information and support where needed. We are dedicated to ensuring that your voices are heard and our rights are protected.

### **Together, We Rise**



In times of darkness, it is our unity and solidarity that light the way. Let us continue to support one another, celebrate our diverse cultures and stand against hate with unwavering resolve. By coming together, we can overcome any challenge and build a brighter, more inclusive future for all.

Stay safe, stay strong, and stay united.

With love, solidarity and hope,

The BARCO Team