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## UK internet crackdown

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### UK to ban jihadi internet sites?

In her first speech on terrorism since becoming the UK's home minister, Jacqui Smith hinted that the government would consider censoring radical Islamist websites [1], a move deemed controversial by many critics. Speaking at the launch of the International Centre for the Study of Radicalisation and Political Violence (ICSR [2]), Smith insisted that "when there is illegal material on the net, I want it removed". So far, the government enforces bans only on child pornography sites.

ICSR's two day conference, which ends tomorrow, boasts a magisterial roster of scholars, journalists, activists and world leaders. toD was in attendance at today's session, hearing the likes of Mary Robinson, former Sudanese prime minister Hassan al-Madhi, former MI6 chief Richard Dearlove and BBC security correspondent Frank Gardner. The general tenor of discussion was unabashedly critical, with speakers generally lamenting the blunt conduct of counter-terrorism in the last six years. Expect a full round-up of the conference, including interviews and audio commentary, on toD soon.