After murder rate passes NYC, London Mayor Sa calls for sharper knife control

William Cummings, **USA TODAY** Published 5:23 p.m. ET April 9, 2018 | **Updated 6:00 p.m. ET April 9, 2018**



(Photo11: Daniel Leal-Olivas, AFP/Getty Images)

CONNECT11 TWEET11 LINKEDIN11 COMMENT11 EMAIL11 MORE11

London Mayor Sadiq Khan announced a crackdown on knives Sunday in response to the rising levels of violence in London, which recently surpassed New York City's homicide rate for the first time.

"No excuses: there is never a reason to carry a knife," Khan tweeted. "Anyone who does will be caught, and they will feel the full force of the law."

There have been more than 50 homicides in London so far in 2018, and much of the violence is tied to gangs.

Guns are strictly regulated in the United Kingdom and the rising homicide rate in London is directly attributable to a rise in knife-related crimes, with stabbings claiming at least 31 lives to date in 2018. By contrast, New York — which has a population roughly the same size as London — has seen a steady decline in violent crime.

There were 15 murders committed in London in February and another 22 in March, while New York saw 14 murders in February and 21 in March, according to murder rate statistics provided to USA TODAY by London's Metropolitan Police and the New York Police Department.

Share your feedba
improve our site ex

POPULAR STO



Parents say student
remove MAGA gear
usatoday.com | 21 hours ago



Rep. Ilhan C
accused of a
usatoday.com



'Taco Bell fir
lives!' Man,
in Oregon sr
usatoday.com

diq Khan

ck to help
perience!

ORIES



ts told to

Omar again
anti-Semitism
3 hours ago

e sauce saves
dog survive 5 days
now
an hour ago