



MVT Anti Extremism Policy

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Previous Versions

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MVT Anti Extremism Policy

Context: The Military Vehicle Trust is the World's largest organisation of ex-military vehicle owners and enthusiasts and is dedicated to "keeping our mechanical veterans alive". We have been a Registered Charity since 1987 and our Charitable Purposes are set down in a document called our "Memorandum of Association".

The Trust is established for the purpose of restoring and preserving military vehicles of historical interest and the preservation of books, drawings, records, documents, sound and visual recordings, films, photographs and other media and ephemera relating to such vehicles, their history and development, and promoting and encouraging the same aim in others.

Our Core Values are summarised in our three aims:

Conserve and Restore, Educate and Inspire and Honour and Respect

1. Purpose

Extremist ideologies, particularly left and right-wing extremism, have no place within our organisation or any of its activities. This policy outlines our commitment to preventing any form of extremist behaviour or beliefs, ensuring that the MVT remains a welcoming, inclusive and respectful community.

2. Scope

This policy applies to:

- All MVT members, trustees, and volunteers.
- Individuals participating in MVT events, exhibitions, and activities.
- Contractors, suppliers, and other third parties engaged with the MVT.

3. Definition of Extremism

For the purposes of this policy, extremism refers to the vocal or active opposition to the core values of democracy, equality, tolerance, and the rule of law. Specifically, this policy focuses on left and right-wing extremism, which includes but is not limited to:

- Racism and xenophobia.
- Anti-democratic ideologies or advocacy of violence.
- The promotion of supremacist beliefs or conspiracy theories that target marginalized groups.
- The use of military history, symbols or artefacts as a means to glorify or justify hate or divisive ideologies.

4. Our Stance on Extremism

The MVT:

- **Condemns all forms of extremism**, including but not limited to left and right-wing extremist views, that promote intolerance, hatred, or violence.
- **Affirms that the MVT is a non-political organization**, and its activities and events must remain free from political agendas, including the propagation of extremist ideologies.
- **Rejects the misuse of military history or military vehicles** to promote political extremism, revisionism, or glorification of divisive figures or movements.

5. Prevention and Responsibilities

The Council of Management

- Is responsible for ensuring the MVT's environment is free from extremist influences.
- Will implement measures to prevent individuals or groups with extremist views from using the MVT as a platform for their activities.
- Will respond swiftly and effectively to any reports of extremist behaviour.

Members, Volunteers, and Event Participants

- Are expected to uphold the values of the MVT, which include respect, inclusivity, and the rejection of extremist ideologies.
- Are responsible for ensuring that personal behaviour and speech do not promote or suggest support for left or right-wing extremism or any other form of extremism.
- Are required to report any suspected extremist behaviour or activities to the MVT leadership.

Event Organisers

- Must ensure that all MVT events are conducted in a way that prevents the promotion of extremism, especially the use of military history or artifacts for extremist propaganda.
- Are responsible for the vetting of participants, exhibitors, and speakers to ensure that no extremist elements are involved.

6. Prohibited Conduct

- **Symbols and Imagery:** The display of symbols, flags, uniforms, or paraphernalia associated with right-wing extremism, fascism, or supremacist ideologies is strictly forbidden at MVT events and activities. Specifically, the use of WW2 German SS uniforms, badges or flags is not allowed. There must be no visible SS runes or Skull & Crossbones, associated with the SS, visible. The decisions of event organisers to

remove displays, take down flags or ask for uniforms to be taken off the display must be abided by, and is final.

- **Speech and Behaviour:** Any speech, conduct, or behaviour that promotes or glorifies right-wing extremism or discriminatory ideologies, whether in person or online, will not be tolerated.
- **Recruitment and Propaganda:** The MVT prohibits the use of its platform, events, or gatherings for recruitment into extremist organizations or the distribution of extremist propaganda.

7. Reporting and Response

Any individual who witnesses or suspects extremist behaviour at an MVT event or within the organisation is encouraged to report it immediately to the MVT leadership either directly or via the online incident contact system <https://www.mvt.org.uk/contact.html>

Reports will be taken seriously and handled with confidentiality. If the investigation confirms extremist behaviour, appropriate disciplinary actions will be taken, which may include:

- **Immediate removal from MVT events.**
- **Suspension or Termination of membership.**
- **Referral to relevant authorities** if the behaviour constitutes a legal violation.

8. Monitoring and Review

The Council of Management will regularly review this policy to ensure it remains effective in preventing extremism within the organisation. As necessary, adjustments will be made in response to emerging risks or changes in the broader social and political landscape.

9. Conclusion

The Military Vehicle Trust is committed to fostering a community that honours military history in a manner that respects diversity and promotes inclusion. By rejecting left and right-wing extremism and all forms of intolerance, we can ensure that the MVT remains a safe and welcoming environment for all.