

[News story: Zero emission vehicles: funding to drive development and adoption](#)

Up to £22 million is available for industry-led research and innovation that accelerates the uptake and use of zero-emission vehicles in the UK.

The competition is looking for low-cost, highly-integrated systems that support zero-emission journeys for cars and other vehicles including buses, motorbikes and large trucks.

The [Office for Low Emission Vehicles](#) is working with Innovate UK to deliver the funding.

Leading the transition to zero

UK government's strategy to clean up transport, [The Road to Zero](#), has an objective for all new cars and vans to be effectively zero emission by 2040.

In order to improve air quality and provide a better environment for people, there needs to be a massive expansion of infrastructure that supports clean technology and a leap forward in the development of cars, vans and trucks that produce low or zero emissions.

This competition will support government's aim to accelerate adoption and grow a strong, clean economy, putting the UK at the forefront of the global market.

It will help to achieve government's modern [Industrial Strategy](#). One of the grand challenges is looking at transforming the movement of people, goods and services.

There are 3 opportunities to apply, depending on the stage and size of the project.

Support for multiple, collaborative projects

What's the opportunity?

There is up to £16 million to fund multiple, collaborative research and development (R&D) projects. These should have a total value of less than £4 million.

Projects should focus on one of the following to:

- advance power electronics, machines and drives for automotive applications
- improve energy storage and management

- develop lightweight vehicle and powertrain structures
- create zero emission technologies that are highly disruptive

Small-scale R&D competition information

- the competition is open, and the deadline for applications is midday on 6 December 2018
- a UK business of any size can lead the project, working with other businesses, research organisations or third-sector organisations
- total project costs can be between £250,000 and £4 million
- businesses could get up to 70% of their eligible costs
- projects should last between one and 3 years and start by June 2019
- the best projects will be invited to interview between 18 to 22 February to progress their application

A single, large, high-value project

What's the opportunity?

In addition to investing in multiple collaborative R&D projects, up to £4 million is on offer for a single, large, high-value research and development project.

The project should look at one or more of the following to:

- disrupt conventional powertrain technology in vehicles
- support the transition of UK internal combustion engine manufacturing capability into e-powertrain production
- develop e-powertrain solutions that are not related to any conventional engine research and development work
- integrate zero emission technologies with a conventional engine for demonstration purposes, at minor costs

Single project competition information

- the competition is open, and the deadline for applications is midday on 6 December 2018
- a UK business of any size can lead the project, working with other businesses, research organisations or third-sector organisations
- the total project cost can be any amount, but the grant you can claim is limited to £4 million
- funding for up to 70% of eligible project costs is available
- the successful project should last between one and 3 years and start by June 2019
- the best projects will be invited to interview between 18 to 22 February to progress their application

Feasibility studies

Testing the feasibility

The final competition has up to £2 million for feasibility studies.

Technologies could include:

- the electrification of conventional powertrains, such as waste heat recovery systems and hybridisation
- e-powertrains solutions that do not include costs related to any conventional engine R&D work
- hydrogen innovations, for example, in fuel cells or electricity production

Feasibility studies competition information

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- total project costs can be up to £250,000
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- projects should last up to one year and start by June 2019

Speech: Deputy High Commissioner's speech at the annual Africa Conference on Social Entrepreneurship

I am delighted to be invited back to Tangaza University and the Second Annual Africa's Conference on Social Entrepreneurship.

The African narrative is shifting from aid-led solutions to enterprise-led solutions to development problems. Development assistance has a vital role, but alone it cannot address social and economic problems fast enough, or at the scale required.

The private sector is part of the answer, but often it doesn't reach the most marginalised parts of society and geographies. As the brilliant development economist Paul Collier describes: private sector companies need the public sector to bear some of the risk in getting to the most challenging areas. Even CSR interventions are often not scalable nor sustainable given they are loss-making.

Social enterprise is the bridge between aid and enterprise. And it's not just us in this room who might think so: The latest report from the Global Impact Investing Network tracks \$355bn invested in social enterprises.

Social Enterprise is defined by the Global Impact Investing Network as: building innovative sustainable businesses that are creating positive social change.

Social enterprises combine the best parts of what non-profits and regular companies have to offer by focussing on the triple bottom line: profits, environment and social impact.

Let's unpack that triple bottom line:

Profits – profits are derived by creating a business that is more successful than its competitors, which often means it is innovative.

Environmental – this reflects the intrinsic value of sustainability to the social enterprise movement

And Social impact, which at its most basic level means creating jobs and do no harm.

It's pretty easy to tell if a business is profitable. Comparing money in to money out is a blunt but effective measuring tool. A business that is not profitable – no matter how environmentally sound or socially responsible it is – will fail. But what about the other components of a social enterprise? As the social enterprise business model is relatively new, there is a limited body of evidence against which to test success. But there is a growing range of tools and instruments available to measure social enterprises.

These tools can help us to judge whether a business is innovative and environmentally sustainable, and whether it is creating positive social change through jobs or other means. I am pleased to see you will be discussing Measuring and Reporting Social impact later in the conference.

Last year at this conference, I spoke about the 5 key elements of an entrepreneurship ecosystem: Universities, Entrepreneurs, Corporates, Risk Capital and Government. This year, I would like to build on that, and examine how this model of an ecosystem relates to social enterprise specifically. And I will provide examples of how the UK is working in partnership with Kenya along the way.

Entrepreneurs

I make no secret of the fact that entrepreneurship was the reason I chose to live and work in Kenya. Not the elephants much as I love them, or the beautiful sunshine, though that helps. But after spending many years in the US and the UK immersed in cutting edge innovation-driven entrepreneurship, Silicon Savannah was my next frontier.

I have had the privilege to meet Kenyan entrepreneurs across the country now: notably here in the blooming number of hubs and incubator spaces across Nairobi; at SwahiliBox in Mombasa and EldoHub in the Rift Valley. The range of ideas, their ingenuity, their hustle – never fails to impress.

Entrepreneurs are vital to the social enterprise space. We need people who will question, disrupt, not accept the status quo. Who are determined to find solutions that make our world better as well as make money.

The UK is supporting entrepreneurs to work in Social Enterprise in a number of ways:

Through the British Council's Social Enterprise Leadership Programme, we are working with leading civil society organisations at the community level. The programme has reached 90 social enterprises through its business support services, they have worked with 43 CSOs, equipping 82 master trainers which have so far reached 1,343 community leaders

Through the UK government's Science and Innovation network and the Kenya National Innovation Agency, we deliver an annual Leaders in Innovation Fellowship programme. The programme creates international networks of innovators and technology entrepreneurs, including an intensive study course in the UK mixing with innovators and enablers from around the world.

I would like to highlight a recent examples of social enterprises we have supported recently, with a particular focus on supporting Disabilities: People living with disabilities are often marginalised from opportunities and face particular challenges not addressed by the mainstream services. This presents problems that social enterprises are well-placed to address.

Roy Allela from Sign IO has designed a special glove that translates sign language to speech. It was developed to address the language barrier between sign language users and the general public.

More than 30 million people in the world have speech impairments: this enterprise can help integrate them more widely into a society dominated by people who do not use sign language, thereby opening up the potential of these 30m people. That's a big market and a massive impact from something as simple as a wired up glove.

14 Kenyan innovators have participated in the Leadership Innovation Fellowship programme and the next call opens in late October.

Staying with Science, we also partner with the UK's Royal Academy of engineering to support their Africa Prize for Engineering Innovation

This prize aims to stimulate, celebrate and reward innovation and entrepreneurship in Sub-Saharan Africa. It encourages ambitious and talented engineers from all disciplines to apply their skills to develop scalable solutions to local challenges.

The programme started in 2015 and so far 39 entrepreneurs – mostly Kenyans – have participated in the programme.

A great example of a social enterprise supported through this programme is the Mkononi Tank Monitoring System. It monitors water levels, leaks, valves and pumps via a mobile phone app in order to quickly identify water wastage.

Limited access to water affects over 16 million people in Kenya, and 300 million people in sub-Saharan Africa. Better access to information within the water value chain will greatly alleviate this problem in the African water sector. A fine example of a social enterprise driven by environmental and

social considerations, built on a fundamentally sound business model.

A third example of how the UK is supporting entrepreneurs working in social enterprise in Kenya, is through our department for International development (DFID) and the new Jobs programme we launched last month. Over the next 4 years, with £5m funding, we will be working in Kenya to test innovations that have the potential for large-scale job creation.

We are looking to support innovations that will unlock barriers in productive sectors and generate employment particularly amongst the most vulnerable. We will have a Lion's Den style competitive process to select ideas.

We will give funding and technical assistance to the selected ideas, in order to test their potential to create productive jobs. We will then find ways to link these enterprises with private or public investors and relevant enterprise support organisations to ensure their scale and sustainability.

So, tonnes going on with entrepreneurs, and I'll be happy to share details of how you can follow up on these opportunities.

Universities

The second of the five key actors in an entrepreneurial ecosystem are the Universities. Universities are the perfect petri dish for developing social enterprises.

They bring together bright, inquisitive people, they combine multiple disciplines so scientists meet artists meet business people meet politicians and so on.

Universities also provide the infrastructure to help fledgling enterprises learn how to translate their dream into reality. And they can provide the machinery and expertise to turn concepts into something tangible

The UK is proud to partner with many Kenyan Universities, and their role in supporting Social enterprise.

The British Council's Social Enterprise programme has a core strand on Capacity building and education systems. This programme ensures that support for social entrepreneurs is embedded in their practice. We provide content, skills exchanges and best practice showcases, working with UK excellence in this field.

Through the UK's Department for International Development, we support an East Africa research hub. In relation to Social enterprise, the EARH supports African research leadership. It is helping to develop skills for world class research.

Effective, dynamic knowledge systems play a critical role in creating a culture of evidence-informed thinking, building human capital, supporting social change and contributing to economic development.

All of this helps to create the conditions in which social entrepreneurship

is fostered.

We calculate there is at about £100m of UK research funding in Kenya, spent in partnership with Kenyan institutions, thereby supporting development of capacity to identify African solutions to African challenges.

Risk capital

The third actor in the entrepreneurship ecosystem is risk capital. The need for appropriate capital across the risk-return spectrum is perhaps the most common challenge noted by social enterprises.

Where I work, at the British High Commission in Nairobi, we are rapidly increasing our understanding of, and ability to mobilise blended finance.

Blended finance is a strategy that combines capital with different levels of risk in order to catalyse risk-adjusted, market-rate seeking capital into impact investments.

The blend of public grant financing, by which I mean traditional donor money, which does not expect a return – no profit – with private equity, which is sustainable through market forces because it does expect to make a profit, is vital to social enterprise.

The public funding helps to de-risk: it takes the hit to open up a market that doesn't seem to be a profit maker. Once it has made that first move, the more risk-adverse private sector will see potential where before it saw none. This then helps attract funding for large-scale high-impact investing, and the wider benefits that brings – such as a mix of skills and expertise from across different organisations.

I'd like to talk about Sanergy as a great example of this. Sanergy's founders saw a big problem in Kenya's informal settlements: poo. The flying toilets of Kibera. Through some donor grants they researched the market: what solutions were practical, would be accepted by the community. How much money were local people ready to spend on a solution? How many toilet units were needed to make a viable business?

The initial research led to a pilot. The pilot led to a business and the business is now scaling through a mix of grants, investments, donations and government support. The risk capital made it happen: the result is a huge improvement in the lives of thousands and a step towards tackling some serious public health and well-being challenges.

Corporates

The fourth actor in the entrepreneurial ecosystem is the corporates.

Social enterprises are generally pretty small. There are 44,000 active across Kenya, and many employ only a few people, working a local scale that feels a world away from the Corporate world. But the big corporates are crucial to the business model.

Many entrepreneurs dream of a start up that will disrupt the big corporates. Think how Amazon started out nibbling at the toes of the big brand shops. But the corporates need not be the enemy. Large corporations are a source of opportunity for the social entrepreneur.

Firstly, they set the standards: The British Chamber of Commerce represents some of the biggest companies in Kenya. The UK is the largest cumulative investor in Kenya's private sector. 1 in 10 Kenyans with a formal job work for a UK company.

Amongst these are some familiar brands and they take their brand reputation seriously. Unilever for example, has been voted again the best employer in Kenya.

In order to continue their success they must look after their markets as well as their profits. Nodor Darts, a small British company based in Athi River produces 65% of all the match quality dart boards worldwide. They use 90% of Kenya's sisal crop to produce these boards, so they invest heavily in their supply chain of sisal farmers, ensuring strict conduct of employer fairness, environmental controls, and safety standards.

Second, the corporates create opportunities to commercialise innovations

For example, take the BBC, the British Broadcasting Corporation. A household name. If the BBC puts its weight behind a social enterprise, it can be a huge boost. I recently went to an event showcasing a BBC Virtual reality film: an incredible experience highlighting some major environmental issues across Africa. The company that they used for the VR goggles was a local Kenyan enterprise: Black Rhino. That kind of partnership can be invaluable in establishing credibility and market awareness.

Thirdly, big corporates represent blocks of talent, experience and business know-how. It is a different skill set from the self-starting disrupter personality type you see in entrepreneurs. But diversity is a wonderful thing! Corporates know they must innovate or die, so they are keen to learn from entrepreneurs. In turn, entrepreneurs can benefit from the depth of knowledge and skills of the corporates. Member organisations of the British Chamber of Commerce in Kenya are very keen to support a two-way exchange of ideas and skills. We hope to formalise a mentoring system between the BCCK and young social entrepreneurs soon: watch this space!

Governments

Finally, we come to Governments, the fifth actor in the social enterprise space.

Often entrepreneurs think the best thing governments can do is get out of the way. I don't agree. Governments have a significant role to play in enabling Social enterprise.

Governments are responsible for company law. In the UK we have amended our laws so that business must demonstrate diligence to social and environmental

responsibilities: this came about through evidence and advocacy from the UK's Social Enterprise organisation – a partner and friend to SESOK.

Governments can also use the tax revenue system to incentivise social enterprise. They can reward businesses that protect the environment, and present incentives to businesses to offer services to marginalised markets.

And governments can also encourage education in the public school curriculum about social enterprise. Though I think the hustle is in the blood here in Kenya, so I'm not sure you need that!

The British Council programme has been supporting governments and policy influencers to create an enabling environment for social enterprise and other inclusive economies innovation, working in collaboration with UK stakeholders.

This programme has inspired action towards developing social enterprise policies at the county level in Makueni, Embu, Bungoma and Kajiado.

I have talked through how the UK is partnering with Kenya to promote and support social enterprise:

- Through entrepreneurs who need skills, contacts and recognition
- Through universities via research grants, curricula and scholarships
- Through risk capital blending high risk public sector grants with risk averse but sustainable and scalable private money
- Through corporates who can share knowledge, supply chains and set industry standards
- And through governments who shape the business environment, and set incentives for socially and environmentally responsible behaviour.

Social enterprise is a great business model for the 21st century. The latest reporting from the UK shows Social Enterprises are contributing £60bn to the UK economy: that's 3%, three times as much as agriculture. Social enterprise provides employment for 2m people, 5% of all jobs. Kenya is on a similar trajectory: keep up the good work.

News story: David Mundell on UK Trade Visit to South America

Mr Mundell will be promoting trade links between South America and the UK on a visit undertaken on behalf of the UK Government's Board of Trade/ He will look at how we can support new post-EU trade opportunities in South America, promoting Scotland as a great exporter and the UK being open for business.

Ahead of his visit, Mr Mundell said:

The UK Government set up the Board of Trade to help identify and unlock new export markets and encourage further inward investment. With six months to go until we leave the EU, it is vital we continue promoting the UK abroad.

South America provides a breadth of trade opportunities for UK companies, including oil and gas and food and agriculture. Uruguay and the UK have a long history and enduring ties, and I believe our countries can learn from each other in many areas, including agri-tech. While in Chile I will discuss topics such as trade and innovation in the food industry with business leaders. What Scotland and the rest of the UK has to offer the world is exceptional, and I am confident this visit will help develop trading opportunities with South America.

Her Majesty's Trade Commissioner for Latin America and the Caribbean, Joanna Crellin, said:

The UK's trading relationship with both Chile and Uruguay is on the up – increasing by 9.7 per cent and 21.9 per cent last year respectively – with more UK companies starting to see the vast potential offered by the region.

Latin America and the Caribbean have vibrant and dynamic economies, and as we look forward to a strengthened post-Brexit trading relationship, we will ensure that the benefits of increased trade and investment are felt in every part of the UK, including in Scotland.

While in Uruguay Mr Mundell will attend a #LoveisGREAT reception in to hear about the country's strong progress on LGBT rights. He will also visit the British Council's remote teaching hub to discuss how technology can support English language learning, and meet organisers of the World Angus Conference 2019 (Aberdeen Angus is the dominant cattle breed in Uruguay, introduced by British breeders more than 200 years ago).

In Chile, Mr Mundell will meet Fundacion Chile to discuss innovations in the food industry, before speaking with the Minister of Agriculture to promote UK agri-tech.

Beverages were the top exported good from Scotland to LatAC (Latin America and the Caribbean) in 2017.

[Press release: UK leads action plan to help those hardest hit by Yemen's nutrition crisis](#)

The UK is leading international efforts to develop an urgent action plan to tackle malnutrition in Yemen, Minister for the Middle East Alistair Burt announced in New York today (Tuesday) at the United Nations General Assembly.

With 7.4 million Yemenis on the brink of malnutrition, a coordinated response is needed to prevent the food crisis worsening.

Today, Minister Burt chaired a 'Call to Action' event bringing together agencies from the United Nations, Non-Governmental Organisations and donors to make a series of commitments to help millions of malnourished Yemenis over the next three years.

These commitments include:

- reducing cases of severe and moderate malnutrition through the detection and early treatment of all children under five and pregnant and lactating women;
- reversing chronic malnutrition prevalence, and in the long-term reducing chronic malnutrition annually by at least 50,000 children;
- increasing breastfeeding rates, whilst also providing food supplements (such as folic acid and iron) to children under five, adolescent girls and pregnant and lactating women;
- providing children under two and pregnant and lactating women with extra food rations in areas most at risk of famine; and
- developing more robust monitoring mechanisms and referral services to help agencies better understand and target malnutrition cases.

Speaking from New York, Minister Burt said:

The UK is deeply concerned about the food security crisis in Yemen – the largest in the world, with nearly 8.4 million people not knowing where their next meal is coming from. Children are often the worst affected, with malnourished children being 12 times more

likely to die from disease.

This is entirely preventable, which is why today the UK has brought together UN agencies, donors and NGOs to work smarter and more efficiently to save Yemeni lives.

UK aid is helping to meet the immediate food needs of 2.5 million Yemenis this year, as well as treating children with severe acute malnutrition and providing safe water, shelter, and emergency livelihoods across the country.

The UK has been clear that the way forward remains a political solution, and is committed to helping the UN Envoy end this conflict which has brought severe pain and suffering to the Yemeni people.

Notes to editors

- The UK's £170m in aid this financial year (2018/19) will meet the immediate food needs of 2.5 million Yemenis, as well as treating children with severe acute malnutrition and providing safe water, shelter, and emergency livelihoods across the country. The UK is the fourth largest donor overall to Yemen this year.
- According to the United Nations, the humanitarian situation in Yemen is the worst in the world, with the largest number of people at risk of starvation in the world. Rapidly rising food and fuel prices, the depreciating Yemeni riyal and the fact that non-payment of public sector salaries in many parts of the country for over two years makes it increasingly difficult for Yemenis to buy food and meet their other basic needs. At least 1.8 million children and 1.1 million pregnant or breastfeeding women are acutely malnourished, including over 400,000 children under age five who are suffering from severe acute malnutrition.
- The root causes of chronic and acute malnutrition and the factors leading to it are complex. The current conflict creates conditions where malnutrition can take hold, exacerbated by poverty, constrained development, low socioeconomic status, and other social circumstances. Women and young girls and boys suffer disproportionately. Countries with high levels of malnutrition lose as much as 10 percent national GDP year-on-year.

[Speech: Future security in Europe](#)

Good afternoon.

Estoy encantado de estar hoy aquí en Madrid! (Translation – I am delighted to be in Madrid today.) I'd like to thank the organisers, EFE, for hosting this event.

I've been lucky enough to hold various posts within the British government.

But one similarity between them all is that I spend a lot of time trying to convince people to have a warm, open and productive relationship with Britain.

But I'm pleased to say that with Spain, the UK already has a strong and valuable relationship.

We have a proud history of working together...

And I'm not just talking about Gareth Bale helping Real Madrid win the Champions League and David Silva helping Manchester City win the Premier League!

There are strong ties between our nations.

More than 180,000 Spaniards live in the UK, and 2 million visit every year.

19 million Brits holiday in Spain each year and around 300,000 have made their homes here.

We have 5,000 Spanish people working in our National Health Service...

...and another 5,000 working in scientific research, including trying to find cures for illnesses like Alzheimer's and cancer.

There are also 12,000 Spaniards studying in UK universities and 55,000 students are in British schools in Spain.

That means that British schools have more of a footprint here in Spain than anywhere else in Europe.

We are also allies in business.

Spain is now the UK's seventh largest trading partner and our total bilateral trade was up 5% last year.

The UK is Spain's top destination for foreign direct investment.

But perhaps it is our security relationship that is the real jewel in the crown.

Whether it be against Daesh, drugs runners, or human traffickers, we could not ask for more from Spanish law enforcement and intelligence agencies in terms of commitment and collaboration.

Our 2 countries regularly work together to protect our people.

We share tools to crack terror cells.

We stop murderers and rapists slipping over our borders.

We end exploitation by organised crime gangs.

And we bring these monsters to justice.

It's a sad fact that our countries share many of the same security threats and challenges.

We have a shared history of fighting terrorism – be that in the form of the IRA or ETA.

Our countries have both also been victims of terrorist attacks in recent years.

Last year, the UK was rocked by terror attacks in Manchester and in London.

In Spain, innocent people were mown down on Las Ramblas.

Our countries shared the pain of these attacks.

During the London Bridge attack, it was a Spanish national – Ignacio Echeverría – who sadly lost his life when he confronted terrorists with only his skateboard to try to save others.

He was posthumously awarded Britain's highest honour – the George Medal last year...

...and I'm pleased to say that his father will collect his posthumous George Medal in Buckingham Palace next month.

In Barcelona, one of the victims was a 7 year old boy with dual British-Australian nationality.

I will pay tribute to all victims of this mindless terrorism later today in the Bosque del Recuerdo.

Both our countries face an enduring threat from Islamist terrorism, which we work together to combat on a daily basis, wherever it manifests itself – be that on our streets or online.

There are other threats which our countries face together too.

For instance, the threat from large scale cybercrime is growing as digital technologies advance.

Cybercrime does not respect borders and this was shown with devastating effect when the WannaCry ransomware attack impacted more than 100 countries around the globe.

We also both face the threat of hostile state activity.

We both have a watchful eye on Russia following on from the despicable nerve agent attack in Salisbury, which left 4 people fighting for their lives and one innocent woman dead.

Following this attack, many European countries stood with the UK to take decisive action, with Spain expelling 2 Russian diplomats in response. We are

grateful to Spain for standing with us.

When it comes to our security, we know that when we collaborate we are at our strongest.

We know that sharing tools, sharing data and expertise keeps people safe in Spain, in Britain – and across Europe too.

And that's exactly what we're doing.

We're working together through the EU, through NATO and bilaterally in all sorts of different ways.

For example, in March this year, 39 women were freed from sexual exploitation at the hands of an organised criminal gang here in Spain...

...as a result of a joint operation between the UK's National Crime Agency and Spanish and Nigerian law enforcement.

In April, the National Crime Agency again worked with Spanish law enforcement to seize nearly 9 tonnes of cocaine in Algeciras ... the largest ever haul from a single container in Europe.

And, of course, nowhere is Anglo-Spanish co-operation stronger or more visible than in the joint operation called the Captura campaign ... which has seen 81 dangerous British fugitives successfully tracked down and arrested.

Without cooperation between our agencies, these dangerous fugitives, these 81, could still be at large...

...these people traffickers could still be lurking in our communities...

...and these drugs still flooding our streets.

This co-operation is often underpinned by EU law enforcement and criminal justice measures, which we both make use of to our mutual benefit.

In particular, I welcome the strong co-operation and leadership that the UK and Spain have shown within Europol to drive forward the EU's efforts to tackle illicit firearms trafficking.

We make extensive mutual use of European Arrest Warrants to arrest criminals, helping to fight trafficking and so much else.

For example, in the last 5 years, the UK arrested over 200 people on behalf of Spain, and the Spanish authorities have arrested over 180 on our behalf.

We are also both a part of the Schengen Information System, which enables the sharing of real-time automated alerts on missing and wanted people with law enforcement agencies across Europe.

We're working together to tackle child sexual abuse.

Just last year, our Spanish partners assisted in the arrest of one of the

UK's most wanted sex offenders.

This twisted paedophile had been hiding in Spain for nearly 2 years and if he hadn't been caught, he may well be preying today on more children.

The European Arrest Warrant enabled Spanish authorities to locate him and return him to face justice in the UK where he is now behind bars.

These are just some examples of the collaborative security work that is going on every single day.

In all areas – from counter-terrorism to serious and organised crime, we are working together to keep our citizens safe.

That's in both our interests.

The nature of the current threat from serious organised crime, cybercrime, terrorism and hostile state activity is truly global.

And it constantly changes, as geopolitics and technology evolve.

To keep pace with this and to ensure we are able to respond effectively, we must continue to work together.

Criminals who seek to harm our citizens, exploit vulnerable people, damage our economies, and challenge our values, are finding new ways to do so – regardless of borders or geography.

We must continue to find new ways to fight back.

That means having seamless operational co-operation, real-time sharing of data, and state of the art technology.

It means ensuring those who would cause us harm know that they cannot escape justice by crossing from the UK into Spain or vice versa.

It means sharing our expertise, experience and intelligence, so we can stay one step ahead.

The UK Prime Minister said earlier this year that the UK is unconditionally committed to European security.

And I want to reiterate that message today – that deal or no deal – we remain committed to ensuring the security of Europe.

I'm pleased that Minister Grande-Marlaska has taken the time today to discuss with me the future of our security co-operation.

Because the benefits of our security cooperation – and its importance – are clear.

And this co-operation is facilitated and enhanced by access to EU tools and measures to the benefit of citizens in both our countries and across Europe.

We want an ambitious security relationship going forward after Brexit, which we have clearly set out.

We accept that outside the EU, our relationship must of course be quite different. But it does not have to be weaker.

We accept that things will need to change.

We will not be carrying on as if we were a member state.

We will be leaving all the various EU institutions.

We will no longer be involved in EU decision-making.

But the point is, we can make these changes and others without undermining the day-to-day operational co-operation which plays such an important role in keeping European citizens safe.

We want our security relationship with Spain – indeed with all our European partners – to be as strong and effective as ever once we have left the European Union.

That's why the UK government has proposed a comprehensive treaty between the EU and the UK which will allow security co-operation to continue and lives to be saved.

And I will keep putting forward the case for this continued co-operation.

The kind of model we are proposing is one the EU is familiar with.

It's relatively simple.

But we need the political will to make this happen.

The alternative – abandoning EU co-operation tools – would lead to a damaging reduction in our ability to work together, despite our best efforts.

While we have had some initial conversations with the Commission, we now need to go further and faster to help make sure that all our citizens stay safe and that crooks can't prosper.

I've spoken a lot today about the importance of working together.

Working together in all sorts of different areas.

Indeed, it's something our 2 countries have been very good at for a great many years.

In fact, UK and Spanish diplomatic ties go back 500 years.

Commercial ties go back even further.

As I've said, the security links between the UK and Spain have been going from strength to strength.

But we are now facing an intensive period of negotiations which will define the future relationship between the UK and the EU.

That will of course have implications for our security co-operation in the future.

I very much hope that the negotiations will reach a conclusion which ensures we are able to continue to co-operate effectively with our European partners to keep our people safe.

We have made the UK's commitment to Europe's security very clear.

Setting out what we think is the best way to guarantee it.

Today I want to promise you this.

That I will continue to do all I can to make sure that the relationship between our two great nations remains strong...

...that our citizens are kept safe...

...and that we continue to face our common threats and challenges together, long into the future.