

# Rudd: Working with global partners we can improve women's prospects in the workplace

The Work and Pensions Secretary Amber Rudd is in Rome for a working visit to discuss the UK's record female employment and the role of women in politics.

Published 15 July 2019 From: [Department for Work and Pensions](#) and [The Rt Hon Amber Rudd MP](#)



Women's interests will only be fully represented at the top tables of business, politics and finance when women are part of the decision making, Amber Rudd will say today (15 July 2019).

The Work and Pensions Secretary Amber Rudd is in Rome for a working visit to discuss the UK's record female employment, as well as the role of women in politics.

Meeting with the Young Women's Network, she will hear about how they are empowering young women and promoting their role in society, while also encouraging them to build their careers through a supportive network and mentoring programme.

The Secretary of State will deliver remarks, in Italian, to a Women in Politics event, exploring the similar representation of women in the UK parliament (32 percent) and Italian parliament (35 percent) as well as the progress of female employment in Italy.

The Secretary of State will use a working visit to the Italian capital to meet Anglo-Italian businesses.

Secretary of State for Work and Pensions Amber Rudd said:

For women's interests to permeate all aspects of business, politics and finance we must have more women around the table making the decision that matter.

The best way to improve participation is to work together and I want to work with our European partners to improve the prospects of women and girls everywhere.

The UK and Italy enjoy an incredibly strong relationship. We are long-standing partners and our relationship will continue to go from strength to strength.

While in the city, Secretary of State will carry out a fact finding visit to the National Institute for Social Security (INPS), which manages a wide range of welfare support including pensions and benefits for the unemployed.

As one of the largest and most complex European social security institutions, the Work and Pensions Secretary will take the opportunity to also meet with Professor Pasquale Tridico, the President of INPS.

More than five million British Nationals visit Italy each year. An estimated 700,000 Italian nationals have made the United Kingdom their home.

Italy and the UK are strong trading partners, with bilateral trade worth £43.1 billion in 2017.

And the 2 nations work together closely inside the G7, the G20, NATO, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE).

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