

Equalities analysis: further insights from 2022

The Department for Education (DfE) has published statistics on [attainment of students at Key Stage 4](#) and also for [16- to 18-year-olds in summer 2022](#) compared with previous years. These statistics include breakdowns of results by student characteristics such as gender, ethnicity, and socio-economic status.

Ofqual has also been working on [equalities analyses](#), to consider trends in a wider context. We have analysed how the results for different groups of students have changed over time, when controlling for other variables. This analysis focuses on GCSEs, A level, and vocational and technical qualifications taken alongside them in schools and colleges.

This work follows on from analysis of [GCSE and A level](#) and [vocational and technical qualifications](#) in 2020 and [GCSE and A level](#) and [vocational and technical qualifications](#) in 2021, and uses the same methodology to consider the impact of the different methods of assessment in those years on existing attainment gaps.

With the return of exams in summer 2022, the team repeated the analysis with 2022 results, to see whether, and if so how, these attainment gaps might have changed.

The analysis includes students taking GCSEs, A levels and some vocational and technical qualifications. It includes the following student characteristics:

- prior attainment
- ethnicity
- gender
- special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) status
- free school meal eligibility
- socio-economic status (using the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI))
- region, and the type of school or college (GCSE and A level only)

Crucially, our analysis uses multivariate regression modelling, so we can measure the impact of each of the above characteristics once all others have been held constant. For example, we can compare the results of 2 different ethnic groups, without differences in their overall prior attainment or socio-economic make-up affecting the findings. This analysis differs from the DfE statistics, and so gives more insight into the changes in attainment gaps over time.

Main findings

Of the many different comparisons between groups of students, the majority showed no notable change in attainment gaps in 2022, compared with both

pandemic and pre-pandemic years. The full report explains what we mean by 'notable changes' but essentially they are changes that we believe go beyond normal year-on-year variation.

Attainment gaps are still there, but in most cases they have not changed since the last time summer exams took place. And in some cases, they have narrowed.

The analysis highlights changes in these attainment gaps. In some cases, the patterns of attainment are different from previous years. In others, the pattern when exams took place is notably different from pandemic years.

The patterns are different for A level, GCSE, and vocational and technical qualifications.

Note that these are changes after controlling for all other variables.

A level

At A level, the analysis highlights some key changes in relation to gender, ethnicity and school and/or college type.

Gender

In 2022, at grade A and above, male students had higher outcomes than female students, similar to pre-pandemic years. The difference in 2022, however, is smaller than in 2018 and 2019, so the gap between male and female students has shrunk. This reverses what we saw during the pandemic, and especially in 2021, when female students overall achieved better results than male students.

Ethnicity

The gap between Black African and White students narrowed in 2022 particularly at grade A and above. Since 2018, Black African students have had consistently lower results. The largest difference was in 2021, and the smallest difference was seen in 2022.

School and college type

The analysis compared each school and/or college type with academies, the largest type of school and/or college.

The most notable change is for students in further education colleges. These students have had lower outcomes relative to those in academies for the past 5 years. In 2022, the gap, in terms of average grade, widened to about half a grade.

Students in sixth forms and tertiary colleges also achieved lower results, in terms of average grade, than those in academies. This is in line with pandemic years, but a change from pre-pandemic exam years, when those students had slightly better overall outcomes than students in academies.

The analysis also shows a difference for students in state selective schools. Before the pandemic, these students had higher overall results than students in academies, once prior attainment and other characteristics are accounted for. In 2020 and 2021, this trend reversed, and their overall results were lower than for students in academies. In 2022, the trend reversed again and students in state selective schools outperformed students in academies by about a fifth of a grade on average. This was in line with results when exams last took place, although the differences this year on all measures were larger than in 2019.

GCSE

At GCSE, the analysis highlights the following changes compared to previous years.

Ethnicity

White Gypsy and Roma students have had lower outcomes relative to White British students since 2018. In 2022 the gap, in terms of average grade, has narrowed to 1 grade.

School and college type

Students in independent schools have had higher outcomes compared to students in academies since 2018. In 2022, however, the difference in average grade was the smallest of the past 5 years, though still nearly a grade and a half.

Students in selective schools have had higher outcomes than those in academies over the past 5 years. The gap narrowed in 2020 and 2021 but in 2022 the gap returned to pre-pandemic levels.

GCSE students in further education colleges and other centres (which include training providers and hospital schools) have had lower outcomes relative to students in academies since 2018. In 2022 the gap widened and is now a little over 1 grade on average.

Socio-economic background

Here the picture is mixed.

Over the past 5 years, students eligible for free school meals have had lower outcomes compared to those not eligible. In 2022 the gap was similar to 2021 at almost half a grade on average, a little wider than in pre-pandemic exam years.

However, analysis using the IDACI index shows students from the most socio-economically deprived areas slightly closed the gap with those from better-off backgrounds.

The differences could be because the 2 measures of socio-economic background are different. In addition, eligibility criteria for free school meals have changed over time, making it difficult to make like-for-like comparisons over

time.

Vocational and technical qualifications (VTQs)

VTQs have different structures and different grade scales, so the analysis focused on the probability of achieving the 'top grade', that is, the highest grade that can be achieved in each qualification.

Findings vary across the different groups of qualifications considered, but overall, we found fewer notable changes than for GCSEs and A levels.

For level 2 Technical Certificates, usually taken post-16, the notable changes were in relation to ethnicity and prior attainment. In 2022 White and Black Caribbean students were less likely overall to achieve top grades than White British students. But the gap in 2022 narrowed compared to previous years. Students with very high prior attainment were more likely than their average ability peers to achieve top grades in 2022. But again, the difference reduced compared to 2019.

For Level 3 Applied Generals, the only notable change observed related to prior attainment. Students with very high prior attainment were even more likely to achieve top grades in 2022 than in pre-pandemic years, compared to students with medium prior attainment.

For level 3 Tech Levels, the notable changes were in relation to ethnicity only. White and Asian students and those from 'any other ethnic group' were more likely to achieve top grades compared to White British students in 2022. This reversed the differences seen in 2019 when those students were less likely to achieve top grades.

For level 2 Technical Awards, there were no notable changes.

Conclusion – mixed findings

It is difficult to draw firm conclusions from these mixed findings. Some gaps have narrowed, some have reversed, and some have widened. But most have not changed in a material way.

Attainment gaps existed before the pandemic, and they are not fixed. Even in a normal year, we see small changes from one year to the next. This analysis highlights the more notable changes, which warrant reflection.

We cannot disentangle the many factors that may have led to these changes. And assessment arrangements were different in 2020 and 2021, making comparisons more difficult. It is possible that many of these changes highlighted in this analysis reflect the uneven impact of the pandemic on different groups of students.

Exams and other formal assessments are not the cause of attainment gaps, nor can they be the solution. Indeed, an important feature of exams and formal assessments is that the rules are the same for all students.

British Week 2022 in Paraguay programme

The British Embassy in Asunción is delighted to announce the [#BritishWeekParaguay](#) 2022, from Thursday 1 to Wednesday 7 December 2022.

This new edition of British Week will feature impactful events that will allow us to promote British excellence in multiple sectors and raise the profile of the UK in Paraguay.

We share below the calendar of events for the week, with details of the activities that form part of our varied programme.

Programme

Week-long

Daily schedule

Date	Time	Event	Location	Registration and Cost
Thursday, December 1	10:00 hrs	Brit Noise. The Podcast.	Online	Open access, free of charge
	14:00 – 18:00 hrs	Tea Pastries Workshop	INFORCAP, Asunción	Sign up with INFORCAP at (0983) 350-062; (0981) 807-101; (0986) 237-441 and (021) 613-135
	17:00 – 18:30 hrs	Panel “Women Transforming Education and Technology”	Altos de Francia Building, Asunción	Free access, registration at bit.ly/BW22_Panel
Friday 2 December	11:00 – 11:30 hrs	Inauguration of the Platform 9 and 3/4	Books, Shopping del Sol, Asunción	Open access, free of charge
	17:00 – 19:00 hrs	Train Station Open House	Central Railway Station, Asunción	Open access, free of charge
	19:00 – 21:00 hrs	After Office with Arsenal Supporters Club	Complejo Tavarelli, Asunción	Sign up with the Arsenal Supporters Club Paraguay at (0991) 785-872
	21:00 hrs	British Night at London Pub	London Pub, Pedro Juan Caballero	Open access, tickets at the door

Date	Time	Event	Location	Registration and Cost
Saturday 3 December	09:00-11:00 hrs	The Queen's Green Canopy	Botanical and Zoological Garden, Asunción	Free of charge, registration at bit.ly/BW22_QGC
	12:00 – 16:00 hrs	World Cup Broadcast	The Hop Craft Beerhouse, Fernando de la Mora	Open access, free of charge
	13:00 – 15:00 hrs	Brit Noise Takeover	Radio programme, Rock & Pop FM 95.5	Open access, free of charge
Sunday, December 4	15:00 – 18:00 hrs	World Cup Broadcast	The Hop Craft Beerhouse, Fernando de la Mora	Open access, free of charge
		Virtual meeting with youth delegates of COP27 Egypt 2022	Online, live streaming	Open access, free of charge. Registration to participate in the Zoom at bit.ly/BW22_COP27
Monday 5 December	10:00 – 11:00 hrs	Film Debate Session – Trainspotting	Cinermak, Asunción	Open access, free of charge. Registration at bit.ly/BW22_CineDebate
	19:00 – 22:00 hrs	Jane Austen House Museum Virtual Tour	Private online exhibition	Open access, free of charge. Registration at bit.ly/BW22_JaneAusten
Tuesday 6 December	14:00 – 15:00 hrs	Reading session with Literato and Urbano Café	Shopping del Sol, Asunción	Open access, free of charge
	17:00 – 18:00 Hs.	Virtual presentation on TatakuaLab	Online, live streaming	Open access, free of charge. Registration to participate in Zoom at bit.ly/BW22_EncuentroMuCi

Event details

EVERYDAY

Scone Boxes with Tea Time

Tea Time's special offer with Scone Boxes, classic British desserts. The dishes will be available to the public as part of a special menu exclusively for British Week.

- Open to all.

- Central House: Pedro Alcántara 985 (Santísima Trinidad, Asunción).
- Monday to Saturday 08:00 – 18:00 Hs., Sunday 11:00 – 17:30

Exhibition of literature in English

A display of works by British authors and prominent English-language exhibitors at all Librería Books locations.

- Open to all, free of charge.
- Casa Central: Av. Mcal López 1923 c/ Brasilia (Asunción), Monday to Friday 08:00 – 17:00.
- Shopping del Sol: Av. Aviadores del Chaco esq. Profesora Delia González, Monday to Saturday 08:00 – 21:00 Hs., Sunday 10:00 – 21:00 Hs.

Imprinting the future with the Science Museum (MuCi)

An invitation to visit the exhibition “Printing the Future” within the TatakuaLab Space, an exhibition of 3D prints made in collaboration with the Science Museum of London.

- Open to all, tickets on sale at muci.org
- MuCi TatakuaLab: Complejo Textilía (Avda. General Santos 1030, Asunción)
- Tuesday to Friday 15:00 – 21:00 Hs., Saturday and Sunday 10:00 to 20:00 Hs.

THURSDAY 1 DECEMBER

Brit Noise. The Podcast.

Online launch of the sixth and final episode of Brit Noise. The Podcast, with Annabel Pitaud and Ambassador Ramin Navai. In this episode they discuss the topic “Music and Consciousness”.

Tea Cakes Workshop

A specialised workshop with various recipes for tea time, by INFORCAP. This 100% practical live workshop will cover the preparation and tasting of the food, as well as a cost estimate for its preparation.

- 14:00 – 18:00 Hs.
- Open to all with prior registration and workshop subscription.
- Tickets on sale at inforcap.edu.py, (021) 613 135, (0983) 350 062
- INFORCAP: Eusebio Ayala 3909 esq. Alas Paraguayas (Km. 4.5, Asunción)

Panel “Women transforming education and technology”.

Panel organised by the Chevening Alumni Association, in the framework of the regional project “Transforming Education”. A space to discuss gender equality, access to education and new technologies.

- 17:00 – 18:30 Hs.
- Open to all with prior registration at bit.ly/BW22_Panel, limited places.

- Live broadcast via the British Embassy Asunción Facebook page.

FRIDAY 2 DECEMBER

Inauguration of Platform 9 and $\frac{3}{4}$

A brief meeting and photo opportunity with Ambassador Ramin Navai in front of the new Platform 9 and $\frac{3}{4}$, the legendary secret entrance to the magical world of Harry Potter, hosted by Books Bookshop Books.

- 11:00 – 11:30 am.
- Open to all, free of charge.
- Books Bookshop Books, Shopping del Sol (Av. Aviadores del Chaco esq. Profesora Delia Gonzalez)

Train Station Open House

Mini Paraguay Club exhibition, tours of the Railway Museum with the FEPASA team, and British drinks. The first 50 visitors will have the unique opportunity to sample one of the drinks on the menu.

- 17:00 – 19:00 Hs.
- Open to all, free of charge.
- Estación Central del Ferrocarril (México 145 corner Eligio Ayala, Asunción)

After-office with Arsenal Supporters Club

A meeting between lovers of the beautiful game, and the legendary Isilton football club that is currently shining in the Premier League. Match and third half organised by the official Arsenal Supporters Club in Paraguay.

- 19:00 – 21:00 Hs.
- Open to all with prior registration at (0991) 785872, limited places.
- Tavarelli Complex (Avda. Brasilia and Mayor Julio Otaño, Asunción).

British Night at London Pub

A celebration of UK music and aesthetics at London Pub, Paraguay's quintessential British pub. Live music, imported beer and all the British vibe.

- 21:00
- Free access, entrance to be paid at the door. Contact (0976) 818828
- London Pub: Mcal. López esq. José de Jesús Martínez (Pedro Juan Caballero, Amambay, Paraguay)

SATURDAY 3 DECEMBER

Queen's Green Canopy, Trees in Memory of the Queen

Reforestation day with the support of A Todo Pulmón, as part of the "Queen's Green Canopy" initiative. Initially intended to commemorate the Platinum

Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II, the initiative was extended until March 2023 to honour the memory of the British monarch.

- 09:00- 11:00 Hs.
- Open to all with prior registration: bit.ly/BW22_QGC, limited tress available.
- Zoo and Botanical Garden (Av. Primer Presidente between Av. Artigas and Ruta Transchaco, Asunción)

World Cup matches

We get together to watch the matches of the Qatar 2022 Football World Cup. British Hobgoblin beer and a good day of the beautiful game!

- 12:00 – 15:00 Hrs.
- Free and open admission (does not include drinks and food on the premises)
- The Hop Craft Beerhouse (10 de Julio c/ Ruta Mcal. Estigarribia, Fernando de la Mora)

Brit Noise Takeover

A Brit Noise programme dedicated to British Week, accompanied by Ambassador Ramin Navai with his personal selections of the great classics of British music.

- 13:00 – 15:00 Hs.
- Brit Noise radio show
- Rock & Pop, 95.5 FM

SUNDAY 4 DECEMBER

World Cup Match

Continuing our Saturday World Cup programming, we meet again on Sunday to watch the Qatar 2022 Football World Cup in The Hop's Beer Patio with beer from Hobgoblin.

- 15:00 – 18:00 Hs.
- Free admission (does not include drinks and food on the premises).
- The Hop Craft Beerhouse (10 de Julio c/ Ruta Mcal. Estigarribia, Fernando de la Mora)

MONDAY 5TH DECEMBER

Virtual meeting with young COP27 participants

A meeting with young people who attended the Climate Summit (COP27) in Egypt in the framework of the Operation COP2022 initiative. Experience, challenges, lessons learned and perspectives for the future in the fight against climate change. With the support of the Youth Network for Climate Action in Paraguay.

- 10:00 – 11:00 Hs.

- Virtual event open to all with prior registration at the link bit.ly/BW22_COP27
- Meeting via Zoom with live broadcast on the Facebook page of the British Embassy.

Cinema Debate Session

Screening of the cult film “Trainspotting” with a post-film discussion, hosted by the Paraguayan Film Association and Ambassador Ramin Navai. With the participation of special guests.

- 19:00 – 22:00 Hs.
- Open to all and free of charge with previous registration at the link bit.ly/BW22_CineDebate, limited spaces available.
- Cinemark Cinemas, Paseo La Galería: Avenida Santa Teresa and Aviadores del Chaco (Asunción)

TUESDAY 6TH DECEMBER

Virtual Tour of Jane Austen’s House Museum

A virtual tour of the former home of Jane Austen, author of British classics such as Pride and Prejudice, Persuasion, Emma and others. Tour organised by the Jane Austen Museum, offered only in English with no interpretation into Spanish.

- 14:00 – 15:00 Hs.
- Open event free of charge with prior registration at bit.ly/BW22_JaneAusten, limited spaces available.
- Meeting via Zoom.

Reading session with Urbano Café y Literato

Reading of a literary selection by Ambassador Ramin Navai, followed by discussion among those present. Coffee options and literary atmosphere in an enjoyable evening.

- 17:00 – 18:30 Hs.
- Open to all and free of charge (does not include food and drinks at the premises)
- Urbano Café y Literato: Shopping del Sol: Papa Juan XXIII 1713 esq. Prof. Gómez Ríos (Asunción)

WEDNESDAY 7 DECEMBER

Virtual presentation about TatakuaLab

Virtual meeting with the team of the Science Museum of Paraguay to learn more about the TatakuaLab space and about the exhibition “Printing the Future”, realised with the support of the London Science Museum.

- 10:00 – 11:00 Hs.
- Virtual event open to all with access by registration at

bit.ly/BW22_EncuentroMuCi.

- Meeting via Zoom with live streaming on the British Embassy Facebook page.

For more information about the British Week, contact Karina Rodriguez, Political and Communications Officer at Karina.Rodriguez@fcdo.gov.uk.

Bromford community help design mural for new flood defence scheme

Local artist Sajida Asif has been working with children from Tame Valley Academy as well as adult, youth and women's groups in the community to produce the artwork which reflects the history of Bromford.

The mural will be used to decorate some of the new flood walls which are part of the Bromford flood risk management scheme. The scheme aims to reduce the risk of flooding from the River Tame to 1,589 residential properties and 42 non-residential properties in the area.

The scheme extends more than 4.5 kilometres from the River Rea, through Bromford and Castle Vale, and downstream to the M42 crossing at Water Orton.

Suzanne Ward, Environment Manager for the Environment Agency said:

We are close to completing the Bromford flood risk management scheme on the right bank of the river which will help to better protect homes and businesses from the devastation of flooding. We are delighted that this essential structure is being decorated with the colourful artwork of local children and community members.

Sajida Asid added:

It has been truly wonderful working with the Bromford community of all ages. They have given me such a warm welcome that I feel like I've known this community for a long time.

Through our friendly discussions they have shared many stories of Bromford and talked about the history of the area, each from a personal perspective. The collection of paintings will aim to welcome people to the community in the same way that I have been welcomed and be a walk through Bromford's history to the present day.

The scheme will reduce the risk of river flooding to 1,589 residential properties with 893 homes protected on the right bank and 696 homes protected on the left bank in Bromford and Castle Vale. It will also reduce the risk of river flooding to 42 non-residential properties in Bromford and Castle Vale.

The works are predicted to help prevent £321 million of flood damages. It will also include environmental enhancements to the River Tame including extensive tree planting and wildflower meadows on the right bank.

Other benefits include unlocking housing regeneration potential by reduced flood risk and allowing over £40 million investment into new housing by Birmingham City Council in Bromford as well as improvements to the well-used Bromford Park, including a newly refurbished and improved playpark area delivered by Birmingham City Council with a £200,000 contribution from the Environment Agency.

Background

The Environment Agency is working in partnership with Birmingham City Council (BCC) and Birmingham Municipal Housing Trust (BMHT) to deliver the scheme.

The scheme comprises of 3 main sections:

- A series of flood walls on the left bank
- A separate series of flood walls on the left bank
- A series of 5 flood walls and more than 2 kilometres of earth works (clay and soil) on the right bank known as Bromford Drive or 'the embankment'. A new cycle track is finished on top of the earth works and will provide a new cycle route through Bromford Drive.

Essex property developer banned for falsely claiming Bounce Back Loan

Anthony James Killarney, 62, from Brentwood, has been given an 11-year ban for falsely claiming a £50,000 Bounce Back Loan for his property development firm.

Killarney was the sole director of K11 Developments Ltd, which was incorporated in August 2015 and traded as a property development company based in Essex until it went into liquidation in November 2021.

In May 2020, Killarney applied for a Bounce Back Loan for K11 Developments Ltd, stating the company's 2019 turnover as £600,000. This led to the company receiving the maximum £50,000 loan.

Bounce Back Loans were a government scheme to help support businesses through

the Covid-19 pandemic. Under the rules of the scheme, companies could apply for loans of between £2,000 and £50,000, up to a maximum of 25% of their turnover for 2019.

But K11 Developments Ltd went into liquidation in November 2021, owing around £388,800, which triggered an investigation by the Insolvency Service.

Investigators discovered that K11 Developments' turnover for the years ending August 2017, 2018 and 2019 had been nil, and the company had not been entitled to the £50,000 Bounce Back Loan. The full amount of the loan was still owed when the company went into liquidation.

The Secretary of State accepted a disqualification undertaking from Anthony James Killarney after he did not dispute that he had caused K11 Developments Ltd to breach the condition of the government's Bounce Back Loan scheme by overstating turnover in order to claim £50,000 to which the company was not entitled.

Killarney's disqualification began on 2 November 2022 and lasts for 11 years. The ban prevents him from directly or indirectly becoming involved in the promotion, formation or management of a company, without the permission of the court.

The liquidator of K11 Developments Ltd is working to recover the full amount of the loan from the former director.

Martin Gitner, Deputy Head of Insolvent Investigations at the Insolvency Service, said:

Bounce back loans were put in place to provide vital support to help viable businesses through the pandemic, providing them with the financial support to protect jobs and return to prosperity.

The conduct of Anthony James Killarney fell extremely short of the standards required of company directors and his ban should serve as a stark warning to other directors who may have misused financial support during the pandemic that the Insolvency Service will act to bring your misconduct to account and remove you from the corporate arena.

Anthony James Killarney is of Brentwood and his date of birth is August 1960

Company K11 Development Ltd (Company Reg no. 09753926)

Disqualification undertakings are the administrative equivalent of a disqualification order but do not involve court proceedings.

Persons subject to a disqualification order are bound by a [range of restrictions](#).

[Further information about the work of the Insolvency Service, and how to](#)

[complain about financial misconduct](#).

You can also follow the Insolvency Service on:

Address by Co-Chairs of the Geneva International Discussions on Georgia: UK response, November 2022

Thank you, Chair. On behalf of the United Kingdom, let me welcome the Co-Chairs of the Geneva International Discussions (GID) to the Permanent Council and thank you for your remarks.

Georgia has been under continuous hybrid attack from Russia since the 2008 war which saw 20% of Georgian territory effectively annexed. The UK remains deeply concerned over the continued illegal Russian presence in Georgia's Abkhazia and South Ossetia regions and fully supports Georgia's sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders.

This year, the multitude of hybrid tactics against Georgia have included the August announcement of the so-called transfer of the Bichvinta estate in Abkhazia to the Federal Protective Service of the Russian Federation on a 49-year lease. This is yet another flagrant breach of Georgia's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The UK was deeply concerned by the illegal so-called Parliamentary election which took place on 12 March 2022 in Abkhazia, and the illegal so-called Presidential elections which took place on 10 April 2022 in South Ossetia. We welcome that the proposed illegal referendum in South Ossetia did not go ahead, and strongly indicate that it should not be rearranged in future.

We call on Russia to reverse its recognition of the so-called independence of Abkhazia and South Ossetia and end all practices aimed at creeping annexation of these territories into the Russian Federation. We welcome initiatives by the government of Georgia to promote reconciliation among the populations separated by the Administrative Boundary Lines and urge Russia not to obstruct these valuable peace building and people to people contacts.

Co-chairs, the UK reiterates our unwavering support for your work. As the only international forum that brings together all sides from the conflict, the GID plays a vital role in trying to achieve a lasting resolution. We welcomed the 56th round of Discussions held on 5 October and your continued open channels of communication following the 10-month pause since the 55th round held in December 2021. We stress the importance of continued communication as you look towards the 57th round of talks. The UK continues to support UN Women to help facilitate the meaningful participation of grass-

roots women peacebuilders in the formal dialogues, so we also urge further discussion in future rounds on the role of women in peacebuilding and security.

We remain grateful to the OSCE for its engagement in the GID and the Incident Prevention and Response Mechanism meetings, as well as in the implementation of confidence-building measures. Although we welcome the functioning of the IPRM in Ergneti and the last meeting which took place in September, we highlight the need to restart regular meetings of the Gali IPRM. These meetings play an important role in preventing the escalation of the conflict and in helping to provide safety and security to people on the ground.

We call upon the Russian Federation to immediately fulfil its clear obligation under the 2008 ceasefire agreement to withdraw its forces to pre-conflict positions, as well as its commitments to allow unfettered access for the delivery of humanitarian assistance and the return of internally displaced persons to return to their homes in safety and dignity.

The burden lies with Russia to take these actions, respect the territorial integrity of Georgia as well as its neighbours including Ukraine, and rebuild the trust that underpins the OSCE and the GID.

Thank you.