

U.K. and U.S. governments collaborate on prize challenges to accelerate development and adoption of privacy-enhancing technologies

- Prize challenges aim to generate technology innovation to help tackle the global challenge of financial crime
- Innovators will be able to draw on expert advice from U.K. and U.S. regulators

The United Nations (UN) [estimates](#) that up to \$2 trillion of cross-border money laundering takes place each year, financing organised crime and undermining economic prosperity. Greater information sharing and collaborative analytics among financial organisations could transform the detection of this activity, but [research](#) by the Royal United Services Institute (RUSI) shows this is hindered by the legal, technical and ethical challenges involved in jointly analysing sensitive information.

Financial crime is among those global challenges that PETs could play a transformative role in addressing.

Today, the U.K. and U.S. governments are developing prize challenges focused on advancing the maturity of privacy-enhancing technologies (PETs) to combat financial crime.

Speaking at the Global Leaders Innovation Summit during London Tech Week in the U.K., Julia Lopez, the Minister for Media, Data and Digital Infrastructure at the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), outlined how PETs can be harnessed to tackle global challenges – from the COVID-19 pandemic to human trafficking – by enabling insights to be derived from sensitive data, while protecting individuals' privacy and proprietary information.

PETs include maturing technologies, such as federated learning, which allows machine learning models to be trained on high quality datasets, without the data leaving safe environments. Such technologies have the potential to help facilitate privacy-preserving financial information sharing and collaborative analytics; allowing suspicious types of behaviour to be identified without compromising the privacy of individuals, or requiring the transfer of data between institutions or across borders. Through the U.S. and U.K. prize challenges, innovators will develop state-of-the-art privacy-preserving federated learning solutions that help to tackle the barriers to the wider use of these technologies.

[Research](#) by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) has found that uncertainty about the regulatory implications of using these technologies is a significant barrier to adoption. As part of the PETs prize challenges, innovators will be able to engage with regulators, including the U.K.'s Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) and Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), and the U.S.' Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN).

The U.K.-U.S. collaboration on the PETs prize challenges was first [announced](#) at the Summit for Democracy in December 2021. Since then, the U.K.'s Centre for Data Ethics and Innovation (CDEI) and Innovate U.K. have been working with the White House's Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), the U.S. National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), and the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) to take the prize challenges forward.

The challenges will open to innovators on both sides of the Atlantic this summer. Challenge solutions will be showcased in the second Summit for Democracy, to be convened by President Joe Biden, in early 2023.

The PETs prize challenges form part of a broader CDEI work programme, also announced today, focused on enabling responsible data access. This multi-year programme will pilot and scale new approaches to enabling trustworthy access to data, working with partners across government, industry and regulators.

Julia Lopez, Minister for Media, Data and Digital Infrastructure at the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, said: "I'm delighted that the U.K. and U.S. are working with regulators on both sides of the Atlantic to help realise the potential of novel privacy-enhancing technologies (PETs) to tackle financial crime. The U.K.'s National Data Strategy outlines the promise of PETs in enabling trustworthy data access. PETs have the potential to facilitate new forms of data collaboration to tackle the harms of money laundering, while protecting citizens' privacy."

Dr. Alondra Nelson, Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, said: "Data can be marshalled to make life easier and more just. But too often, powerful data tools are instead used to deepen inequality and threaten our most basic freedoms. The PETs prize challenges seek to close that gap and demonstrate how these tools can be used responsibly to achieve their potential across many areas – from improving access to healthcare and addressing the climate crisis to advancing financial security and ending human trafficking. This important initiative is an expression of our shared vision: a world where our technologies reflect our values and innovation opens the door to solutions that make us more secure."

Notes to editors:

- The Centre for Data Ethics and Innovation (CDEI) leads the U.K. government's work to enable trustworthy data-driven innovation, and is part of the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). Supporting the development and adoption of privacy-enhancing technologies to enable sensitive data access is one of the priorities set out in the [National Data Strategy Mission 1 Policy Framework](#),

published in November 2021.

- The CDEI is working with Innovate U.K. to deliver the challenge. Innovate U.K. is part of the U.K. Research and Innovation and is the U.K.'s national innovation agency.
- The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) strives to maximise the benefits of science and technology to advance health, prosperity, security, environmental quality, and justice for all Americans.
- The National Science Foundation (NSF) is an independent federal agency created by Congress in 1950 to promote the progress of science; advance the national health, prosperity and welfare; and secure national defence. NSF is the only federal agency whose mission supports all fields of fundamental science and engineering disciplines, from mathematics, engineering and geosciences to biological, behavioural and computer sciences. Primarily through its Secure and Trustworthy Cyberspace (SaTC) program, NSF supports research and development projects in the area of cybersecurity and privacy that address foundational as well as use-inspired research, transition-to-practice issues, and educational development needs of the nation.
- The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) was founded in 1901 and is now part of the U.S. Department of Commerce. NIST is one of the nation's oldest physical science laboratories. From the smart electric power grid and electronic health records to atomic clocks, advanced nanomaterials and computer chips, innumerable products and services rely in some way on technology, measurement and standards provided by NIST.
- The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) is the U.K.'s independent regulator for data protection and information rights law, upholding information rights in the public interest, promoting openness by public bodies and data privacy for individuals.
- The Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) is a bureau of the US Department of the Treasury. FinCEN's mission is to safeguard the financial system from illicit use, combat money laundering and promote national security through the collection, analysis and dissemination of financial intelligence and strategic use of financial authorities.
- The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) is an independent body, accountable to HM Treasury and to Parliament. Find out [more information](#) about the FCA.

British Embassy organises another screening of Attenborough film in Ashgabat

World news story

Embassy collaborates with the International University for Humanities and Development to host an educational screening of Attenborough's "Life on Our Planet".



To celebrate World Environment Day 2022, the British Embassy in Turkmenistan, in collaboration with the International University for Humanities and Development, hosted the screening of Sir David Attenborough's "Life on Our Planet" film for the students in Ashgabat.

Sir David Attenborough is one of the world's most famous broadcasters and naturalists. During his lifetime, he has seen first-hand the monumental scale of environmental change caused by human actions. Honest, revealing and urgent, this documentary film is Sir David's witness statement for the natural world. He offers a powerful first-hand account of humanity's impact on nature and a message of hope for future generations. This amazing documentary presents some pretty grim predictions for the future should humanity continue on its current path, including a sixth mass extinction and a 4°C global temperature rise that will render large parts of the Earth uninhabitable.

British Ambassador, Lucia Wilde said:

I would like to say a huge thank you to each person here for joining us today. Today we have a crucial opportunity to come together and put nature at the heart of everything we do. Today is

a great chance for us to step into a new way of thinking – to encourage our friends, families and wider community to take action and build a better future where we can live in balance with our natural world, and I hope that today after watching this amazing film you leave feeling inspired to act!

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Foreign flagged ships detained in the UK during May 2022 under Paris MOU

During May, there were five new detentions of a foreign flagged vessel in a UK port.

1. In response to one of the recommendations of Lord Donaldson's inquiry into the prevention of pollution from merchant shipping, the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) publishes details of the foreign flagged vessels detained in UK ports each month.
2. The UK is part of a regional agreement on port state control known as the Paris Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control (Paris MOU) and information on all ships that are inspected is held centrally in an electronic database known as THETIS. This allows the ships with a high risk rating and poor detention records to be targeted for future inspection.
3. Inspections of foreign flagged ships in UK ports are undertaken by surveyors from the Maritime and Coastguard Agency. When a ship is found to be not in compliance with applicable convention requirements, a deficiency may be raised. If any of their deficiencies are so serious, they have to be rectified before departure, then the ship will be detained.
4. All deficiencies should be rectified or in agreed class/ flag condition before departure.

Notes on the list of detentions:

- Full details of the ship:

The accompanying detention list shows ship's International Maritime Organisation (IMO) number which does not change throughout the ship's life and uniquely identifies it. It also shows the ship's name and flag state at the time of its inspection.

The company shown in the vessel's Safety Management Certificate (SMC) or if there is no SMC, then the party otherwise believed to be responsible for the operation of the ship at the time of inspection.

The list shows the classification society responsible for classification of the ship only.

Responsible for conducting the statutory surveys and issuing statutory certificates on behalf of the flag state.

The deficiencies listed are the ones which were detainable. Further details of other deficiencies can be provided on request.

SHIPS DETAINED IN MAY 2022

Vessel Name: YASA ILHAN

GT: 31255

IMO: 9396218

Flag: Marshall Islands (white list)

Company: Ya-Sa Gemi Isletmeciligi

Classification society: Nippon Kaiji Kyokai

Recognised organisation: Nippon Kaiji Kyokai

Recognised organisation for ISM Doc: Nippon Kaiji Kyokai

Recognised organisation for ISM SMC: Nippon Kaiji Kyokai

Date and place of detention: 13th May 2022 at Teesport

Summary: Ten deficiencies with one grounds for detention

Defective item	Nature of defect	Ground for Detention
15150 – ISM	Not as required	Yes

This vessel was released 20 May 2022.

Vessel Name: NACC ITACA

GT: 5566

IMO: 9615860

Flag: Panama (white list)

Company: Nova Ship Tech SA

Classification society: RINA Services S.p.A

Recognised organisation: RINA Services S.p.A

Recognised organisation for ISM Doc: RINA Services S.p.A.

Recognised organisation for ISM SMC: RINA Services S.p.A

Date and place of detention: 17th May 2022 at Greenock

Summary: Sixteen deficiencies with four grounds for detention

Defective item	Nature of defect	Ground for Detention
07112 – Emergency Escape Breathing Device and disposition)	Inoperative	Yes
13104 – Bilge pumping arrangements)	Inoperative	Yes
18316 – Water, pipes, tanks)	Not as required	Yes
18317 – Food personal hygiene	Not hygienic	Yes

This vessel was released 20th May 2022. [\[RP1\]](#)

Vessel Name: OCEAN ATLANTIC

GT: 12798

IMO: 8325432

Flag: Portugal (white list)

Company: CRUISE MANAGEMENT INTL INC

Classification society: Bureau Veritas

Recognised organisation: Bureau Veritas

Recognised organisation for ISM Doc: Bureau Veritas

Recognised organisation for ISM SMC: Bureau Veritas

Date and place of detention: 22nd May 2022 at Greenock

Summary: Fifty-two deficiencies with 8 grounds for detention

Defective item	Nature of defect	Ground for Detention
03106 – Windows, sidescuttles and deadlights	Cracked	Yes
07109 – Fixed fire extinguishing installation	Inoperative	Yes
04110 – Abandon ship drills	Lack of knowledge	Yes

07110 – Fire fighting equipment and appliances	Not as required	Yes
02105 – Steering gear	Inoperative	Yes
14104 – Oil filtering equipment	Inoperative	Yes
18313 – Cleanliness	Dirty	Yes
18401 – Medical Equipment, medical chest, medical guide	Missing Equipment	Yes

This vessel was released 31st May 2022.

Vessel Name: TEK

GT: 1997

IMO: 9368637

Flag: Barbados (white list)

Company: Ege Denizcilik Mursel Teksen

Classification Society: Bureau Veritas

Recognised Organisation: Bulgarian Register of Shipping

Recognised Organisation for ISM DOC: Bulgarian Register of Shipping

Recognised Organisation for ISM SMC: Bulgarian Register of Shipping

Date and place of detention: 23rd May at Ipswich

Summary: Fifty deficiencies with sixteen grounds for detention

Defective item	Nature of defect	Ground for Detention
10127 – Voyage or passage plan	Incomplete	Yes
10117 – Echo Sounder Electrical installations in general	Inoperative	Yes
18312 – Galley, Handlingroom (Maintenance)	Not Hygienic	Yes
18315 – Provisions Quality and Nutritional Value	Rotten	Yes
18324 – Cold Room, Cold Room Cleanliness, Cold Room Temperature	Not Hygienic	Yes
07111 – Personal Equipment for Fire Safety	Not as Required	Yes
07101 – Fire Prevention Structural Integrity	Not as Required	Yes
07105 – Fire Doors/Openings In Fire-Resisting Divisions	Not as Required	Yes
11124 – Embarkation Arrangement Survival Craft	Missing	Yes
18407 – Lighting (Working Spaces)	Inoperative	Yes

04103 – Emergency Lighting, Batteries and Switches	Not as Required	Yes
10109 – Lights, Shapes, Sound-Signals	Missing	Yes
18326 – Laundry, Adequate Locker	Not as required	Yes
18305 – Hospital Accommodation (Sickbay)	Not as required	Yes
0511 – Operation of GMDSS Equipment	Lack of Familiarity	Yes
15150 – ISM	Not as required	Yes

This vessel was still detained 31st May 2022.

Vessel Name: AMBIENCE

GT: 70285

IMO: 8521232

Flag: Bahamas (white list)

Company: Bernhard Schulte Cruise Servs

Classification society: Lloyd's Register

Recognised organisation: Lloyd's Register

Recognised organisation for ISM Doc: DNV GL AS

Recognised organisation for ISM SMC: Lloyd's Register

Date and place of detention: 26th May 2022 at Tilbury

Summary: Twenty deficiencies with two grounds for detention

Defective item	Nature of defect	Ground for Detention
02107 – Ballast, fuel and other tanks	Not as required	Yes
14104 – Oil filtering equipment	Inoperative	Yes

This vessel was released 27th May 2022.

DETENTIONS CARRIED OVER FROM PREVIOUS MONTHS

Vessel Name: POSEIDON

GT: 1412

IMO: 7363217

Flag: Iceland (white list)

Company: Neptune EHF

Classification society: NA

Recognised organisation: NA

Recognised organisation for ISM Doc: DNV-GL

Recognised organisation for ISM SMC: DNV-GL

Date and place of detention: 19th July 2018 at Hull

Summary: Ten deficiencies with two grounds for detention

Defective item	Nature of defect	Ground for Detention
02106 – Hull damage impairing seaworthiness	Holed	Yes
07113 – Fire pumps	Insufficient Pressure	Yes

This vessel was still detained 31st May 2022

Vessel Name: TECOIL POLARIS

GT: 1814

IMO No: 8883290

Flag: Russian Federation (White list)

Company: Tecoil Shipping Ltd

Classification society: RMRS

Recognised organisation: RMRS

Recognised organisation for ISM DOC: RMRS

Recognised organisation for ISM SMC: RMRS

Date and place of detention: 6th June 2018 at Immingham

Summary: Twenty-seven deficiencies with six grounds for detentions

Defective item	Nature of defect	Ground for Detention
10105 – Magnetic compass	Inoperative	Yes
10104 – Gyro compass	Inoperative	Yes
11129 – Operational readiness of lifesaving appliances	Not as required	Yes
10127 – Voyage or passage plan	Not as required	Yes
15150 – ISM	Not as required	Yes
11104 – Rescue boats	Not properly maintained	Yes
11101 – Lifeboats	Not ready for use	Yes
01117 – International Oil Pollution Prevention (IOPP)	Invalid	Yes

This vessel was still detained on 31st May 2022

Vessel Name: CIEN PORCIENTO

GT: 106.

IMO No: 8944446.

Flag: Sweden (White list)

Company: Open Window Inc.

Classification society: Unclassed.

Recognised organisation: Not applicable.

Recognised organisation for ISM DOC: Not applicable.

Recognised organisation for ISM SMC: Not applicable

Date and place of detention: 4 March 2010, Lowestoft

Summary: Thirty deficiencies including seven grounds for detention

This vessel was still detained on 31st May 2022

For further information please contact

Maritime and Coastguard Agency Press Office, on:

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Press releases and further information about the agency is available [here](#).

[Platinum Jubilee Chevening evening in Ashgabat](#)

World news story

British Embassy continues Platinum Jubilee celebration with Turkmen Cheveners in Ashgabat.



On 10 June 2022, Her Majesty's Ambassador Ms Lucia Wilde welcomed more than 20 people to her residence. Guests had either received the UK government's prestigious Chevening Scholarship Award and studied in the UK, or will be heading there to take up their studies in early autumn this year. The event also offered the opportunity to introduce the 9th British Ambassador Ms Lucia Wilde to the Chevening community.

Welcoming a range of Alumni from 2003 to 2022, the Ambassador highlighted the importance of education and skills, which has always been one of the key priority areas for the Embassy. Ms Wilde herself is a graduate of six British universities, and education has always been something very close to her heart.

Turkmenistan and the United Kingdom marked the 30th anniversary of establishing diplomatic relations in January this year and has embarked on a number of events and activities throughout the year. In the United Kingdom and across the world, Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee has been widely celebrated.

The British Ambassador Ms Wilde said:

I'm very pleased to be able to continue the celebration of the Platinum Jubilee here in Ashgabat with Turkmen Chevening Alumni.

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[Historic wall at Lydney Harbour revealed as part of restoration work](#)

The Environment Agency has been working with the Forest of Dean District Council to carry out improvements at the site. Among the works was the

removal of vegetation along a canal basin bank where the historic stonework was uncovered.

The harbour, which has Scheduled Ancient Monument status, is already a popular destination for walkers, runners, and families since the recent addition of a cafe, new toilet facilities and an art installation inspired by the harbour's historical lookout tower.

Martin Quine, Environment Agency Assets and Waterways Manager for the West Midlands, said:

Lydney Harbour is an important historic site and one of just two harbours that the Environment Agency manages. We have been carrying out a number of improvements at the site to prevent further deterioration which includes the removal of vegetation growth and debris from the south side of the inner basin, revealing the original harbour stonework.

We didn't realise it was there, so it was a surprise to see it unveiled when the soil was removed. It's wonderful to see the wall and restore it to its former glory. We hope that these improvements to the site will make it safer and more enjoyable for people to visit.

Lydney Harbour has a rich history dating back to the Roman times and was a busy working port during the industrial revolution as a gateway from the South West to the rest of the world.

Its canal and basin were built between 1810 and 1813, with the outer harbour completed in 1821. In its heyday, more than 2,000 vessels would enter the harbour annually, exporting 300,000 tonnes of coal.

In 1985 the harbour was designated as a Scheduled Ancient Monument by Historic England and is now a popular recreational site. However, it had fallen into a state of neglect in recent years and the Environment Agency, which owns the site has been carrying out improvement works to prevent further deterioration.

Further works are planned in the coming weeks including the removal and repair of the outer sea gates, which will be followed by the reinstatement of the historic bypass sluice.