

[Press release: Change of Her Majesty's Ambassador to the Philippines](#)

2016 – 2017 Language training (Tagalog) 2012 – 2016 Madrid, Deputy Head of Mission 2008 – 2012 Bangkok, Deputy Head of Mission 2006 – 2008 FCO, Head, Economic and Central Europe Group 2004 – 2005 FCO, Director, Organisation Project 2002 – 2004 No. 10 Downing Street, International Affairs Press Officer 1999 – 2002 UK Permanent Representation to the European Union, Brussels, Spokesman 1999 NATO Headquarters, Brussels, Speechwriter, Media Operations Centre 1997 – 1999 FCO, Head, EU Enlargement section 1993 – 1997 UK Permanent Representation to the European Union, Brussels, Second Secretary (Trade Policy) 1991 – 1993 FCO, Desk Officer, European Communities (Internal) Department 1990 Joined Foreign and Commonwealth Office

[News story: Minister Ellwood statement on death sentences in Gaza](#)

I strongly condemn the three death sentences carried out in Gaza on 25 May. This decision reflects a worrying trend of increasing use of the death penalty in Gaza.

It is the long-standing position of the UK to oppose the death penalty in all circumstances. We have repeatedly called for the de facto authorities in Gaza to respect the Palestinian Authority's moratorium on implementation of the death penalty.

[News story: Fast Track applications closed](#)

The Civil Service Fast Track Apprenticeship window is closed, our next window will open in Spring 2018.

If you would like us to contact you closer to the time to give you the exact date of when you can apply, please register your interest by emailing fasttrack.events@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk and we will add you to our list and contact you closer to the time.

[News story: Apply to register a trade mark](#)

As part of our ongoing work to improve our digital services, we are implementing changes to the Apply to register a trade mark service.

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Apply to register a trade mark will function the same but with improvements to the look and style of the service.

If you have a draft application saved in progress (saved for later), then you must submit it by 14 June 2017. Following this date, any draft applications saved on the current version of this service will no longer be available.

The change will take effect on 15 June 2017 and the first screen will resemble the following;

We would welcome further [feedback](#) to continue to improve this service going forward.

[News story: Searching for a trade mark](#)

As part of our ongoing work to improve our digital services, we are implementing changes to the current trade mark search service.

There are three trade mark search services:

- search by number
- search by owner
- search by word, phrase and/or image

The three search options will function the same but with changes to the look and style of the service, in particular the search by word, phrase and/or image.

Tabs have been introduced to categorise content, however based on customer feedback, you can also 'display content without tabs'.

The change will take effect on 31 May 2017.

We would welcome further [feedback](#) to continue to improve this service going forward.