

# Ukraine: UK – Ukraine Joint Communiqué

The UK's partnership with Ukraine has developed over thirty years, built on a shared commitment to democratic principles, human rights and equality; to international peace and security; to promoting the benefits of trade liberalisation and investment under the global rules-based trading system; and to the principle that nations must be free to choose their own path to develop and prosper.

The UK-Ukraine Political, Free Trade and Strategic Partnership Agreement signed by Prime Minister Johnson and President Zelenskyy on 8 October 2020, reflects the breadth and depth of our relations.

At the initial Strategic Dialogue meeting on 8 December, Foreign Secretary Truss and Foreign Minister Kuleba discussed ways to build stronger trade links and strengthen cooperation for 2022 and beyond, at all levels, including contacts at the highest level.

The UK reaffirms our unwavering commitment to Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity and support for Ukraine's Euro-Atlantic path. Ukraine reaffirms, with UK support, its commitment to implementing comprehensive internal reforms, which will build resilience, attract foreign investment and strengthen prosperity. The UK commends Ukraine's restraint in the face of ongoing Russian aggression. We underscore that support for Ukraine as an independent state cannot be considered adversarial to Russia, nor an attempt to encircle or undermine it. We call on Russia to de-escalate and abide by its international commitments and engage fully in the Normandy format, aimed at securing a lasting political solution to the conflict. We underline our continued support for the mediation efforts of France and Germany in this regard.

Recognising the already close cooperation between our countries within international organisations the UK and Ukraine intend to strengthen foreign policy coordination and work more closely together on the international stage.

## **Trade**

Trade is the key to unlocking our potential through new opportunities for investment and job creation in Ukraine and across the UK. The UK Government has increased the amount of support available through UK Export Finance to support projects in Ukraine to £3.5bn. This increase in finance capacity for Ukraine will enable UKEF to help British exporters trade in its priority sectors such as healthcare, civilian infrastructure and clean energy.

Our first UK-Ukraine Commercial Dialogue will be held in 2022, providing a bilateral platform to expand and enhance our trade relationship in key sectors including agriculture, food and drink, clean growth, including hydrogen, digital and ICT. It will provide a new dedicated forum to discuss ways to improve the business environment and remove market access barriers to

bilateral trade.

## **Reforms to Support Trade**

Recognising Ukraine's progress and ambition to continue to strengthen economic governance, we agreed to develop a new UK-Ukraine Economic Compact, to encourage international business and investment, and strengthen Ukraine's economic and social resilience. We will explore closer government co-operation on IT and digitalisation and implement further measures to strengthen protections and transparency for investors in Ukraine.

Recognising Ukraine's progress in implementing democratic reforms, we reaffirm our joint commitment to delivering crucial reforms to the judicial sector and to continuing to develop Ukraine's anti-corruption strategy.

## **Climate Change and Energy Security**

Support for upgrading Ukraine's nuclear sector is a win-win area, where the UK can offer world-class expertise. UK exporters are also supplying Ukraine with nuclear fuel services – for Ukraine, this represents a unique opportunity to reduce its dependency on Russian nuclear fuel imports. The UK is committed to shoring up Ukraine's energy security, in particular through developing its renewables and advancing clean energy technologies. We will continue to explore scope to provide targeted support, building on previous work, which has so far included sharing experience of developing hydrogen strategies.

We are opposed to NS2 and concerned by its implications for the interests of Ukraine and for European energy security. We will continue to raise concerns with partners. The UK recently committed £150m to the Climate Investment Funds' (CIFs) Renewable Energy Integration (REI) programme. Ukraine has been selected to receive up to \$70m from the REI Fund to develop its Country Investment Plan, which will identify potential projects that could support Ukraine in raising its ambition on its clean energy transition. The revised plan and potential projects could leverage hundreds of millions more in co-investments from public and private sources.

## **Defence and Security**

The UK and Ukraine will work together to strengthen Ukraine's security. We reaffirm our close defence relations, particularly in the context of the continuing pattern of increasing Russian military activity on Ukraine's borders. Our strong defence cooperation focusses on building Ukraine's resilience, including through Operation Orbital, the UK-led Maritime Training Initiative and joint exercises. Recently, the UK and Ukraine signed a bilateral Treaty, which releases £1.7bn of financing in support of the Ukrainian Naval Capabilities Enhancement Programme. We will explore the potential for additional UK support to Ukraine on implementing defence reforms and maximising the benefits of its NATO Enhanced Opportunities Partner status.

We will explore opportunities for closer collaboration to counter common threats: from foreign malign activities, hybrid threats, international

terrorism and extremism to serious organised crime. We will explore cooperation on border security and protection of critical national infrastructure. The UK will support Ukraine to fully implement the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime. We will establish cooperation to facilitate movement of persons and, when conditions are appropriate, take gradual steps towards easing processes for travel between our countries.

The UK and Ukraine will work together to support resilient and sustainable security and law-enforcement sector of Ukraine. The UK will support Ukraine in developing its capabilities in security and law-enforcement.

## **Conflict and Stabilisation**

The UK and Ukraine will work to enhance Ukraine's resilience in response to the ongoing Russian aggression in eastern Ukraine. The UK-led, multi-donor Partnership Fund for a Resilient Ukraine will help prepare for the eventual re-integration of non-government controlled Ukrainian territory, when the situation allows. We will establish a working level dialogue between conflict experts. The UK will continue to share expertise on conflict and transitional justice issues.

The UK fully supports the aims of the Joint Declaration for the International Crimea Platform, which we joined in August 2021. The UK will work closely with Ukraine and other international partners within the Platform on its five priority tracks, including support for the annual Black Sea Security Conference to be launched in 2022. We are working to advance the sustainable social and economic development of Ukrainian regions closest to illegally-annexed Crimea. The UK and Ukraine will coordinate our efforts to raise the issue of Crimea, improve the human rights situation there and ensure that Russia is held to account for its actions.

The UK and Ukraine will strengthen co-operation to tackle the shared threat from disinformation; ensuring Ukraine's cross-government co-ordination mechanisms on countering disinformation and improving media literacy are sufficiently resourced and sustainable.

## **Culture and People-to-People Links**

The UK and Ukraine will hold the UK/Ukraine Season of Culture 2022, marking thirty years of diplomatic relations and recognising the opportunities for more creative partnerships. The Season of Culture will bring the UK and Ukraine an engaging programme of theatre, visual arts, publishing, music and film. Throughout the Season, we will come together to share experience, learn more about each other, and build new and lasting connections in arts and culture.

The UK and Ukraine will continue to work together to build closer links in Higher Education. The UK will support reform of English language teaching in Ukraine's education system, including the New Ukrainian School reform. The new Future English programme will provide research, consultancy and continuing professional development to the Ministry of Education and Science, and a new Online Teacher Community to provide opportunities for up to 25,000

teachers throughout Ukraine over the next three years.

Signed on 8 December 2021 at the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, London, United Kingdom.

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## [Preventing sexual violence in conflict: joint statement, November 2021](#)



Statement by the governments of the UK, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Indonesia, Hungary, Lithuania, Latvia and Liberia:

The scale of sexual violence in conflict is appalling. In conflicts around the world women and girls continue to face horrific sexual violence. Progress has been made to support survivors and strengthen accountability, but sexual violence continues to be used in conflict. We need a stronger international response for all affected by sexual violence in conflict, the vast majority of whom are women and girls.

We condemn the use of sexual violence and rape as weapons of war as a 'red line' akin to chemical weapons. We are determined to strengthen the international response and build a new consensus to prevent these atrocities, exploring all options for further international action, including the possibility of a new international convention. Together, we will support survivors, hold the perpetrators to account and put an end to these heinous acts.

By December 2021 the following countries also signed up to the joint statement: Czech Republic, Greece, Kosovo and Malta.

Published 16 November 2021

Last updated 16 December 2021 [+ show all updates](#)

1. 16 December 2021

Kosovo added to the additional signatories

2. 8 December 2021

New additional signatories: Czech Republic, Greece and Malta.

3. 16 November 2021

First published.

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## [Review of measures for COVID-19 and flu vaccine programmes](#)

News story

Temporary measures for COVID-19 and flu vaccine programme to be extended or made permanent through new consultation



- Regulations were amended on a temporary basis in autumn last year to scale up vaccine programme

A raft of temporary measures put in place at the height of the pandemic will be considered as the government launches a consultation today on proposals to maintain the pace and scale of the vaccine rollout.

The government is seeking views to make some measures permanent, and give others a further temporary period of operation, in order to continue to support the safe and effective roll out of the UK's influenza and COVID-19 vaccination and booster programmes.

These measures concern the authorisation, movement and sale of vaccines and have supported the successful vaccination programmes by:

- Increasing the available vaccinator workforce;
- Allowing vaccines to be moved between certain premises without the need for wholesale dealer licenses;
- Enabling final preparation and labelling to take place without additional marketing authorisations or manufacturer's licences; and
- Enabling pharmacies to run vaccination service from premises other than their registered premises.

Vaccines Minister Maggie Throup said:

Over the past year, these temporary measures have helped enable the NHS to deliver over 120 million vaccines across this country.

By bedding in this suite of options we can continue to make it quicker and easier for people to safely access COVID-19 and flu vaccines to protect themselves and the people around them.

A consultation is being launched today on the amendments made to the Human Medicine Regulations 2012 last year and will last three weeks.

The Human Medicine Regulations 2012 set out a comprehensive system for the authorisation of medicinal products; for the manufacture, import, distribution, sale and supply of those products; for their labelling and advertising; and for pharmacovigilance. They also provide for enforcement powers for the authorisation and supervision of medicinal products.

- Find the full consultation [here](#)

Published 8 December 2021

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## **[Change of Governor of Montserrat: Mrs Sarah Tucker](#)**

Press release

Mrs Sarah Tucker has been appointed Governor of Montserrat.



Full name: Sarah Georgina Tucker

Married to: Howard John Tucker

<b>Date</b>	<b>Role</b>
<b>2020 to present</b>	FCDO, Director of Strategy, The Virgin Islands
<b>2020</b>	FCDO, Head of Cruise Repatriation
<b>2017 to 2020</b>	FCO, Director of Corporate Capability
<b>2016 to 2017</b>	Special Unpaid Leave, Director, Pencabe Associates Ltd
<b>2011 to 2016</b>	FCO, Deputy Commercial Director
<b>2008 to 2011</b>	Tickling The Trout Ltd, Director/Owner
<b>1994 to 2007</b>	Gallaher Ltd, Japan Tobacco International

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## [Temporary medical exemptions for COVID-19 vaccination of people working or deployed in care homes](#)

Published 15 September 2021

Last updated 8 December 2021 [+ show all updates](#)

1. 8 December 2021

Replaced the letter and the self-certification form for people with medical exemptions with updated versions to reflect the extension to the self-certification cut-off date to 31 March 2022.

2. 15 September 2021

First published.