

PM meeting with Nancy Pelosi: 16 September 2021

News story

Prime Minister Boris Johnson met US Speaker of the House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi in Downing Street.



The Prime Minister welcomed the US Speaker of the House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi to Downing Street today.

They discussed the enduring strength of the UK-US relationship, as exemplified by the recent cooperation on the evacuation from Afghanistan and the announcement of the AUKUS defence alliance today.

The Prime Minister and Speaker Pelosi agreed on the importance of tackling climate change. The Prime Minister underlined that making the upcoming COP26 Summit a success was an economic, security and moral imperative.

The Prime Minister raised the issue of the Northern Ireland Protocol. He outlined the UK's concerns with the way the Protocol is being implemented and the impact it is having on the people of Northern Ireland. The Prime Minister and Speaker Pelosi both agreed on the importance of preserving peace in Northern Ireland.

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Coal power should be assigned to

history to keep to 1.5 degrees

Greetings to you all.

It is a pleasure to join you today, and thank you to the Danish Government, IRENA, UNEP and WEF and all other partners involved in organising Energy Action Day.

The subject of this panel event, the coal to clean power transition, is absolutely vital.

Because, we want to avoid the worst effects of climate change, we must consign coal power to history.

There's really no question about it.

When the countries of the world signed the Paris Agreement in 2015, they committed to limit the rise in global temperature to well below two degrees, aiming for 1.5 degrees.

Because the science shows that this will prevent the most severe impacts.

But that 1.5 degree limit will slip out of reach unless we act immediately.

That was the clear message from the IPCC in August, in their report on the latest climate science.

To keep 1.5 alive we must halve global emissions by 2030.

So the time for talking is behind us. We need urgent action now.

And particularly on power, which accounts for a quarter of global emissions.

Decarbonising our power systems is eminently achievable given the plummeting price of renewables and the stranded asset risk coal presents as a result.

So accelerating the clean energy transition is an absolute focus of the UK's COP26 Presidency.

And we are seeing progress.

The Climate Vulnerable Forum has recently released a statement supporting no new coal power.

And countries like Pakistan have committed to put an end to new coal power.

I look forward to hearing from Minister Aslam in this session about Pakistan's clean energy transition, and how international partners can support it.

Here in the UK, coal is down to less than 2 percent of our energy mix and we plan to phase it out entirely by the end of 2024.

And under our Presidency of the G7, the entire group has committed to move to overwhelmingly decarbonised power systems in the 2030s, and to stop financing coal internationally.

South Korea will end international coal finance too, meaning two of the three largest funders in the world will no longer be putting their money into coal.

To support the clean energy transition around the world, our COP26 Presidency has also been building up international collaboration.

Because we recognise that by working together, we make progress faster.

Last year we launched the COP26 Energy Transition Council, this brings together more than 20 governments, and 15 international institutions, including development banks, to support the green transition in developing countries.

We have also launched the Rapid Response Facility, which is currently responding to over 15 country requests for timely, flexible support with their energy transition.

And we plan to build on these initiatives beyond Glasgow, so that strong partnerships between governments, investors and communities continue to drive the energy revolution.

We urge countries, regions, companies and investors to join the Powering Past Coal Alliance, to accelerate the move away from coal, and the number of national government members has increased 25 percent since COP25.

And we ask financial institutions to move away from coal, and seize the opportunity of investing in clean power alternatives.

To encourage investments in emerging markets we have brought governments, investors and industry together in dialogues, including through the Energy Transition Council, to build investment confidence.

And I am very pleased that public financial institutions are supporting countries with the energy transition.

The "Climate Investments Funds" are an excellent example, and you will hear from their CEO, Mafalda Duarte, today, as well as hearing from Mary Quaney, CEO of Mainstream Renewable Power, a leader in working with local countries and communities to deliver the clean energy transition in new markets.

The progress we have seen is fantastic but there is much further to go ahead of COP26.

Because a gap remains. And it is far too large.

480 gigawatts-worth of new coal power stations are still planned around the world.

So ahead of COP26 and at the summit itself, we need governments to make those

strong, clear commitments to end polluting coal generation and prioritise clean power.

We urge countries to put an end to coal power.

By phasing out existing plants, committing not to build any new ones, and putting an end to international coal finance.

We need all investors, acting on our shared responsibility, to protect our planet.

And we need to keep building up the international collaboration, at COP26 and beyond it, to accelerate the clean energy revolution over this vital decade.

Which, frankly, it is no exaggeration to say, will determine the course of our planet's future.

I hope the UN High-Level Dialogue on Energy next week will see countries announcing ambitious action on energy, including through their Energy Compacts.

And on COP26 Energy Day we will highlight countries' commitments to scale up clean power, stop new coal and support a just transition.

Because the world needs to see urgent action on power – particularly the global exit from coal – to keep 1.5 degrees alive and ensure access to clean, affordable and reliable energy for all.

And I hope that today, you will have a productive discussion on the practical ways in which we can spur action on energy, supported by international collaboration.

With a panel like this, composed of trailblazers in their respective areas, working together, I am sure that you will.

So let's keep working together to revolutionise the way we power the world.

Thank you.

Recent developments in Belarus: UK statement, 16 September 2021

Madam Chair,

On 17 September 2020, almost a year ago to the day, the United Kingdom, with 16 other OSCE participating States, [invoked the Moscow Mechanism](#) to establish a mission of experts to look into and report on the serious concerns around

electoral fraud and human rights violations following the 9 August 2020 Presidential election in Belarus. The subsequent, independent [report by Professor Wolfgang Benedek](#) concluded that the election results were fraudulent and that systematic violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms had been committed by the Lukashenko regime.

Since that time, the Belarusian authorities have made no attempt to address any of the recommendations in Professor Benedek's report. Instead, the Belarusian authorities have responded with misinformation, distorting the facts and providing unconvincing justifications as they seek to defend the indefensible. Sadly, the situation in the country continues to deteriorate.

The sentencing of Maria Kolesnikova and Maxim Znak to 11 and 10 years respectively on 6 September following a closed trial highlighted yet again the lengths the regime will go to as they attempt to silence their critics. Locking up your opponents, and silencing independent voices will not solve this crisis. The solution lies in meaningful and constructive dialogue with all parts of Belarusian society. We continue to call for the release of all political detainees and journalists and those imprisoned for voicing opposition to the Lukashenko regime.

Moreover, the crackdown on non-state media and civil society continues unabated. The decision by the Belarusian courts on 27 August to liquidate the Belarusian Association of Journalists was unjustified. The BAJ have been working to protect the rights of media actors in Belarus for over 25 years. This decision further erodes the right to freedom of expression and media freedom in Belarus. Human rights organisations report that BAJ are just one of over 200 NGOs who have been targeted by the regime. This is a terrible but sadly not surprising statistic.

We also remain concerned about the Lukashenko regime's continued facilitating of trafficking migrants across the border. The unconscionable use of migrants to put pressure on Lithuania, Latvia, Poland and other European partners is another example of the Belarusian Government's flagrant abuse of international norms. We continue to stand with and support Lithuania, Latvia, Poland and the EU, and again urge the Belarusian authorities to cease this activity.

Madam Chair,

In conclusion, we once again urge decision-makers in Belarus to reconsider their course of action, to proactively address the recommendations made in Professor Benedek's Moscow Mechanism report, and to engage with the offer of the current and previous OSCE Chairs-in-Office to facilitate a genuine national dialogue.

Sir Stephen Lovegrove speech at the Council on Geostrategy

Introduction

Thank you very much for having me here today at the Council on Geostrategy. I've been impressed with the Council's work. I welcome the way you're challenging the status quo, and I support your mission "to strengthen Britain and re-assert our leadership in an increasingly uncertain and dangerous world". And it is an uncertain world, and it's one in which the pace of change is accelerating.

What I want to do today is take a step back from the immediate rush of events. It's easier said than done, as I've found in my first few months as National Security Adviser. But it's essential to make the attempt, and I'd like today to reflect – including in the light of events in Afghanistan – on some of the things that have changed, and on some of the things that haven't.

Afghanistan has been a feature of many of our lives, in different ways, for the past 20 years.

Over the weekend we remembered the devastating attack that took place in 2001 in the heart of New York City, in Washington DC, and in Pennsylvania. The events of 9/11 have shaped much of the last two decades of our foreign and security policy.

It is a truism that we all remember where we were on that day and I won't regale you with my own memories, save to say that I was working as an investment banker at Deutsche Bank – whose building adjacent to the twin towers was destroyed – when my colleague Paul on the research floor, where they had televisions, called me saying "You'd better come over. History is being made".

Indeed it was. Although none of us could have predicted that we would spend much of the next twenty years in Afghanistan and Iraq dealing with the consequences of decisions that were taken in the months that followed.

And, as a banker back then, I certainly didn't anticipate that I would be sitting in front of you now, exploring whether our withdrawal from Afghanistan would see us having to adopt a fundamentally different approach to national security.

But the juxtaposition of the anniversary of that attack with our withdrawal from Afghanistan – has naturally led some to pose difficult questions.

- To question whether the events of recent weeks herald the end of the long American century and whether American security guarantees can be relied on.
- To ask if NATO's relevance is reducing.

- To query whether they have terminally undermined “the West’s” – by which I meant the political West’s – values and credibility.
- To ask whether the limits of Britain’s independent agency have been properly and realistically calibrated and if we need a radical rethink of our strategy.

My answer to those questions is – firmly – no

That is not to understate the importance of the events of the last few weeks, nor the human cost.

There are implications that we need to consider carefully.

There is a debt that we owe to those who have sacrificed so much to deliver two decades of progress to the people of Afghanistan.

There is a need to ensure that events in Afghanistan do not become a call to arms for terrorists, at home or abroad.

We will work through both these challenges with our allies, partners and, I hope, with groups like this one.

But, I believe the fundamentals of the approach that the Government set out in the Integrated Review published earlier this year remain absolutely the right ones.

My proposition is that we have already changed a great deal in how we are thinking about security across Government. And today, I want to say more about what we mean by integration – the integration of our values and our interests; integration with our allies and partners; and integration across Government ensuring that we make best use of the full range of levers of national power.

The judgements on the global context were right

Let me begin by reminding you of the world that the Integrated Review described.

It describes an increasingly complex environment which is characterised by the need to confront a range of diverse and networked threats to the UK, its people and its interests.

It emphasises geopolitical and geoeconomic shifts, not least as a result of China’s increasing assertiveness and the direct threat posed by Russia.

It warned against a complacent defence of the status quo given the pressure that the international system is coming under.

It set out how the return of systemic competition means that we will need to confront adversaries and competitors across a range of activity, from legitimate economic competition to much more malign state threats, both covert and overt.

It recognised the transformational nature of technology and the potential risks of proliferation.

And it described how we will need to confront these emerging global challenges including by building resilience at home.

I doubt that many would challenge the validity of that diagnosis and assessment.

But do events in Afghanistan invalidate the vision of Britain in the world that the Integrated Review paints? Of a problem solving, load bearing ally, investing in and protecting our technological edge? Of a country more deeply engaged in areas of the globe where we have historic ties but where we have been less active in the recent past?

I don't think so. My judgement is that recent events demonstrate that we must double down on the trajectory the IR sets out.

We should strengthen our determination to build UK capabilities and work with partners to capitalise on the UK's great strengths.

How we do that of course will be crucial.

But I see nothing that fundamentally changes the strategy. In order to deliver security for the people of the UK:

- We need to pursue an energetic policy of promoting our interests overseas in order to safeguard them at home.
- We need to work with a wide range of allies and partners who share our values and our interests.
- And we need to assemble all the levers of statecraft to promote the UK's interests from trade to science and technology to diplomacy.

Interests driven and values led

The first component of this approach is to energetically pursue our interests.

And, in the era of systemic competition, it is impossible to divorce our interests from our values.

The nations of the UK are bound by shared values that are fundamental to our national identity, democracy and way of life. These include a commitment to universal human rights, the rule of law, free speech, and fairness and equality.

These are values that are shared by our closest allies and partners

They are values that helped us win the Cold War.

They are the values that have ensured the UK is – and will remain – a global power, including through our cultural influence.

The global release – finally – of the latest of the James Bond films, shows that the intelligence agencies can do soft power too.

Demonstrating by example that free and democratic government delivers greater security and prosperity for citizens wherever they are must be at the heart of the approach we take to competition in the 21st Century.

We do not defend these systems and values out of a sense of nostalgia, but because a world in which democratic societies flourish and fundamental human rights are protected is one that is more conducive to our sovereignty, security and prosperity as a nation.

The IR committed the UK to a more active role in shaping a future international order that remains open – fit for the challenges ahead, based on democratic values, and restored to a spirit of global cooperation.

Defending our values is at the heart of this Government's agenda. It is as important in our strategy towards China and Russia as it is in countering violent extremism.

This will not always be easy. Events in Afghanistan are good evidence of this. But our actions demonstrate our commitment.

The UK will not stand aside to let Afghanistan become a new centre for terrorism, either directed or inspired.

We will stand by the people of Afghanistan with humanitarian aid, pressing the Taliban to ensure a safe environment for its delivery and safe passage for those who want to leave. Creating the conditions for greater stability and security will allow us to better deliver our interests and vice versa.

That is why we will remain invested in the future of Afghanistan and will lead a concerted and coordinated effort from the international community.

Importance of working with partners: UK leadership role

The experience in Afghanistan reinforced that the challenges set out in the Integrated Review are global. They impact our partners in Europe, in the US, in the Indo Pacific as they impact on us and those in the immediate region. No country will be able to influence them alone.

I doubt any would seek to.

The need to work in partnership to maximise our impact was a key feature of the approach set out in the IR and it's an area where the UK has great strengths.

From our leading role in NATO, to our strong, strategic bilateral relationships, to our position at the heart of the Commonwealth, the UK has extraordinarily broad and deep international set of partnerships that improve our security and our prosperity.

The IR makes clear that we will continue to benefit from, and invest in, these alliances.

We have seen this year what we can achieve through these relationships.

We have delivered a G7 summit which brought together world leaders in Cornwall to discuss the challenges we face and agree how we will begin to address them.

We will soon host COP26 to ensure that we move ahead in tackling the universal threat posed by climate change.

And we will need to work closely with nations less familiar to us, at least in that guise: for example, Russia, China and Iran are all deeply invested in a stable Afghanistan.

Our approach is, and will always be, international. That is not incompatible with acting in our national strategic interests. Rather, it is central to doing so.

If we are able to prevail in this era of systemic competition, we will do so with allies and partners.

NATO, the US and Europe

NATO is, and will remain, the bedrock of our security. The collective security provided by the alliance is our first, last, and best, guarantee against any existential threat posed by any adversary.

It is the most successful military alliance in history and we are totally committed to our leadership role. We are delivering on that commitment every single day whether that's through our significant investment in the modernisation of the Armed Forces; through our contributions on the ground such as to provide an enhanced forward presence in eastern Europe; or through our drive to modernise the alliance so that it remains at the heart of our approach throughout the 21st Century.

Fundamentally, this alliance has been successful because it has bound US and European security together.

There have been rivers of ink spilt in recent weeks about the decline of both US power and its commitment to our shared security. Arresting though that commentary might be, it is only – and just – that: commentary. And it is wrong.

The US has unrivalled economic strength.

It has the most powerful military that the world has ever seen, and its protective umbrella continues to offer shelter to countries across the world.

Its soft power can be seen in every corner of the globe, and its values and way of life continue to be the ones that most ordinary people aspire to.

I have spoken candidly to counterparts from Europe and the Far East and not one of them has expressed any concern about the nature and firmness of any US security guarantee.

That is not to say that it is wrong or dangerous to ask the question, publicly or privately.

It is the hallmark of a mature, honest debate that we can do so. But it is important to be loud and clear about the answer. Our adversaries typically do not have allies that they can rely on. We do.

And the US always has been, and will continue to be, foremost amongst them.

Is the US's economic dominance likely to be challenged in the decades that come? Of course. But the idea that the US either is in terminal decline or has suddenly become uninterested in the world is eyewash.

I am proud that we have renewed our historic ties through the signature of the Atlantic Charter by the Prime Minister and President Biden in Cornwall. Our cooperation across foreign policy, intelligence and defence is unparalleled. And our partnership with the US enables the UK, and our European partners, to play a more active role than we would otherwise be able to.

That is not to say we won't sometimes disagree or have different areas of focus or emphasis. Like the US, the UK will always be guided by a clear-sighted assessment of our national interests.

But in this complex and interconnected world, our respective strategic interests will almost always align. I am reassured by my US contacts' commitments to working in partnership with us and I expect to see that commitment underscored in the Administration's forthcoming National Security Strategy, its National Defense Strategy and its Nuclear Posture Review.

□We need to accelerate this vital partnership further including in critical areas such as strategic planning, future force design, technological and industrial cooperation – and a systematic approach to reducing or removing barriers to sharing information, data and technology where it is in our mutual advantage to do so.

The US relationship is not the only one that matters.

We must also invest in our strategic, bilateral, relationships in Europe. The UK and France are the continent's pre-eminent military powers. Germany's economic strength gives it substantial global influence. And – let us be clear – our geographic proximity means that we will continue to face many of the same threats to our security. So, where our interests align and where we face common threats, we will work closely with our European allies and partners as sovereign equals or through a NATO framework.

As we always have done.

New partnerships

The relationships we enjoy with the US and our European partners are well developed. But we must take a global approach to partnering. I was delighted that the leaders of South Korea, Australia, India and South Africa were able to join the Prime Minister and other G7 leaders in Cornwall. We must redouble our efforts to build these global partnerships of countries that share our values and with whom we can work to promote democracy, free trade and free societies. I think the D10 (the Democratic 10) will be at the heart of that approach.

We need to demonstrate our commitment through our actions and not just warm words. The historic deployment of the Carrier Strike Group to Asia Pacific is a tangible example of both our desire to build these new relationships and the value that the UK can bring to them. And they are a 65,000 tonne demonstration of the UK's commitment and investment in the region.

Our commitment to working with a range of partners is not just demonstrated by the great grey hulls of the Royal Navy. It is evident every day.

- From our work with France in Africa.
- To the Joint Expeditionary Force which draws together like minded partners in Northern Europe, as demonstrated through Exercise BALTIC PROTECTOR. And I am delighted that Iceland has just joined the JEF.
- In our work with Caribbean and Latin American partners to counter serious and organised crime and disrupt the flow of narcotics before they reach the UK.
- Through our approach to global development including our leading role funding the WHO and global education.
- And of course there is AUKUS announced by the Prime Minister, the President and Prime Minister of Australia last night. There is no better example of Britain's new approach in action than this new alliance with Australia and the United States through which we will collaborate on a range of defence technologies, including cyber and AI.

Most notably, there is a commitment by the three nations to deliver a plan that will enable the Royal Australian Navy to field nuclear powered – not nuclear armed – submarines in the coming years. It is perhaps the most significant capability collaboration anywhere in the world in the past six decades.

This has been a project in gestation for some months – right through the Afghanistan drawdown – and is a powerful illustration of how we are building new long term partnerships rooted in Britain's values, its scientific and engineering excellence, and in our alliances.

There are only six nations capable of fielding nuclear powered submarines – ourselves, the other permanent members of the UN Security Council, and India. Australia will become the seventh, representing a significant commitment to peace and stability in the region, mirroring our own defence settlement, which saw a 10% uplift in spending agreed last year.

These are profound, strategic shifts, and collaboration on nuclear projects creates indissoluble bonds around which new matrices of collaboration can be built.

New approach to burden sharing

So we are already active globally, working with a wide range of allies and partners. But we need to do more.

In order to address the challenges we face, the UK and its friends will need to take a more structured and sophisticated approach to burden sharing.

The answer for the UK is in, to coin a phrase, “strategic ... partnering”.

We will strengthen our global partnerships with clearer agreements about how we can coordinate our efforts to face down these diverse and fast moving global challenges – whether they present in Africa, the Middle East, the Pacific or northern Europe.

This will not always be easy it will require some difficult choices and trade-offs. It will also require us to be clear about where we will lead, where we will support others. We must make our assumptions explicit. We need to clearly communicate. And we must be willing to be flexible to work with both old friends and new partners.

Integrating the levers of national power

Strategic partnering will require the UK to bring to bear the considerable and unique capabilities that we possess.

As I have noted, we are undertaking the biggest increase in defence spending since the end of the Cold War. The UK will spend 2.3% of GDP on defence this year which will cement our place as the largest defence spender in Europe. As Permanent Secretary of the MOD at the time, I know just how significant this commitment was to unlock the modernisation of the Armed Forces.

But the headline number alone is not the end of the story. The substance of the uplift matters too. There is now a plan for UK Defence. The equipment plan is in balance. We have taken difficult decisions to enable us to invest in new technologies which provide the UK with a strategic advantage. It will deliver a force designed around the strategic context of the 2020s, not the strategic concept of the post-9/11 period. And it will enable the Armed Forces to make a decisive contribution to an integrated, cross Government approach to national security.

We are making a similar investment in our ability to think strategically and drive this integration across Government. The UK is renowned as a thought leader and is envied for its ability to bring together the instruments of power. But we must not rest on our laurels.

That is why I have strengthened the strategic capability in the National Security Secretariat, and why I know MOD and FCDO are doing the same.

I want to drive a culture across the UK national security community of genuine insight and long-term thinking.

I want to ensure that we are well prepared to address the full range of threats we face at home and overseas, and build our resilience to these threats.

I want to ensure that we realise the vision in the Integrated Review of an adaptive approach to the challenges we face.

And I want to ensure that the Cabinet Office is properly working across government to champion thought leadership and set the agenda.

It is also why we are eager to learn from groups like the Council on Geostrategy.

We need new voices in the national security debate – a generational refresh and new types of expertise from subject matter knowledge of rising powers in Asia to the cross-over advice from world-class technical experts.

This will require a substantial cultural shift within the civil service to be far more open to bringing external voices into the policymaking process.

That will not be easy. It may not be quick. But I am up for the challenge and I hope today marks an important milestone in that process.

What have we learned and conclusion

Over the last half an hour, I have set out why I believe the fundamentals of the IR remain the right ones: a Global Britain that is problem solving, driven by both its interests and values, and works in partnership with others. But that is not to deny that there are lessons from recent weeks. So I want to conclude with five reflections:

- First, the importance of an integrated approach. Wars aren't won by numbers of troops or weaponry alone. The collapse of the larger and better-equipped ANDSF showed the importance of psychological factors like morale, expectations and faith in political leadership. And the techniques of hybrid warfare must be understood across Government. This is why I've focused so much today on the need to integrate across government and break down some of the traditional stove pipes.
- Second, the imperative that we are guided by clearly defined values and unshakeable belief that a democratic, secure and economically free system of government delivers the best outcome for citizens wherever they are. We must work with our allies and partners to categorically demonstrate this in ways which are tangible at home and inspire those who can deliver change overseas.
- Third, we need to be clear on the challenges, timelines and dependencies of ambitious interventions. We should be active but pragmatic. And we must be clear on the limits of what we can do, consistent in our objectives, and frank about where we are dependent upon others to support us. Fourth, that public consent for foreign policy, military

interventions and our wider approach to national security is a critical factor. Once support for the mission in Afghanistan ebbed away in the US, it became clear that it would come to an end sooner rather than later. That's why IR sets out a need to further develop public engagement capability. We must make the case for how international engagement affects people's real lives and helps make the UK safer and more prosperous.

- And, finally, the UK can make a difference. In the recent past, our Armed Forces, diplomats and development experts helped deny terrorists a safe haven to launch attacks against the UK. They enabled development that improved millions of lives and transformed Afghan society. They allowed a generation of Afghan women and girls to receive an education. The value that the people of Afghanistan attached to that was tragically apparent as the Taliban took power.

For the future, AUKUS shows the way. Working with allies, building on Britain's military and technical prowess, assuring the conditions for peace and prosperity.

Thank you.

[United Kingdom – United Arab Emirates Joint Communiqué: a Partnership for the Future](#)

Press release

UK and UAE agree to a new partnership to strengthen deep and historic relations that the two countries share.



United Kingdom Prime Minister the Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP and His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, met in London on 16 September. The

leaders agreed to establish a new, ambitious Partnership for the Future between the United Kingdom and the United Arab Emirates that will strengthen the deep and historic relations that the two countries share.

The new partnership will build on this history, and ensure that the UAE and UK are able to work closely together to tackle the shared global challenges that we face, promote prosperity and security for our citizens, tackle climate change, and expand the exchange of knowledge, skills and ideas. The meeting was attended by UAE and UK Ministerial representatives, Ambassadors and Officials from both countries.

United Kingdom – United Arab Emirates Partnership for the Future

- The Prime Minister congratulated the United Arab Emirates on the fiftieth anniversary of its founding in 1971. Both leaders welcomed the progress that bilateral relations have made during this time and underlined their high ambition for the future of the relationship. The UK and the UAE are committed to tackling global issues together, in friendship, and in recognition of the opportunity created by the depth of the strategic relationship between the two nations. In order to dramatically expand the breadth and depth of the bilateral relationship, the leaders agreed to establish a Partnership for the Future between the UK and UAE.
- The Prime Minister and His Highness the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi will lead this Partnership, which will consist of two central pillars: the creation of sustainable prosperity and addressing global issues. The leaders agreed to use the Partnership to create new trade, investment, and innovation dynamics, and to strengthen collaboration in areas including life sciences, energy innovation, regional issues, illicit finance, education, security, development, culture, climate, and health and food security.
- The Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the United Arab Emirates will co-chair an annual Strategic Dialogue to review and drive progress on the global issues pillar and to support their strong commitment to promoting multilateralism, and to working closely together during the UAE's term at the UN Security Council for the period of 2022-23.

SUSTAINABLE PROSPERITY

Trade, Investment, and Energy

- The United Kingdom and the United Arab Emirates share an important trade and investment relationship, with total trade of £18.6bn in 2019, and two-way investment of £13.4bn in 2019, promoting innovation, jobs and

economic development in the UAE and UK. The leaders set out their ambition to expand the economic relationship further, and discussed the opportunities for economic cooperation presented by new and developing sectors including technology, education, healthcare and life sciences, and clean and renewable energy.

- The leaders welcomed the recent steps to increase investment flows between the United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom. In March 2021, the United Kingdom's Office for Investment and Abu Dhabi's Mubadala Investment Company signed the UAE-UK Sovereign Investment Partnership (SIP). This long-term strategic agreement will serve as the coordinated framework to guide and drive the future-focused investment relationship between the two nations. Over a five-year period, the UAE-UK Sovereign Investment Partnership (SIP) will invest across four key innovation-led sectors – technology, infrastructure, healthcare, and life sciences, and clean and renewable energy – that will support job creation in both countries, strengthen national research and development capabilities and originate new areas of investment collaboration.
- The leaders welcomed the March announcement that saw Mubadala commit £800m to United Kingdom life sciences, alongside the United Kingdom Government's £200m Life Sciences Investment Programme. This first sector under the UAE-UK Sovereign Investment Partnership (SIP) agreement is already driving greater collaboration between the United Kingdom and the United Arab Emirates in life sciences research and education. Given the strong progress since March of committed and potential investments, the leaders announced the full scale of UAE's investment commitment to the UAE-UK SIP – £10bn over the next five years – including the establishment of the Partnership's remaining three investment priorities: energy transition, technology and infrastructure. To guide and facilitate further UK investment under the expanded remit of the UK-UAE SIP, the leaders welcomed the ongoing assistance from the British Business Bank. The leaders discussed a number of ongoing projects under the SIP framework, with plans to announce further investments in due course.
- Acknowledging that the energy sector has been a crucial pillar in the relations between the UAE and the UK, the two leaders agreed to step up bilateral ties in the energy transition and decarbonisation, with a particular focus on renewables and new forms of energy. This collaboration would be broadened and deepened through three new potential agreements: [1] a trilateral collaboration between Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC), Masdar and BP focusing on, among others, on co-investments and co-development of Low-carbon Hydrogen Hubs and on the creation of a decarbonised air corridor between the UK and the UAE; [2] an agreement between ADNOC and BP on co-development of Carbon Capture, Usage and Storage (CCUS) Hubs, Methane Emission Detection Technology, and Smart Decision Centers for performance management and operational support; and [3] a forward-looking partnership between

Masdar and BP to develop, build and operate energy and mobility services in urban spaces, including clean fuels, energy efficiency, distributed renewables generation and energy storage.

- The leaders welcomed the conclusion of the United Kingdom – Gulf Cooperation Council Joint Trade and Investment Review in June 2021 and recent progress to boost bilateral trade through removing trade barriers and facilitating economic cooperation. They agreed on the importance of continued work in sectors such as education, healthcare, and food and drink, and through the United Kingdom – United Arab Emirates Joint Economic Committee, the next meeting of which was agreed to be held during Expo 2020 in Dubai.
- The leaders announced the signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) on Industrial and Advanced Technologies Co-operation between the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) and the Ministry of Industry and Advanced Technology (MoIAT), with a focus on Industrial policies, Supply chains resilience, Research and Innovation. The MoC highlights nine priority areas for collaboration between the two countries, including Life Sciences, Hydrogen, Space, emerging renewable energy technologies, and smart and green sustainable manufacturing which will be implemented through joint engagements between government, businesses, and academic entities.
- The leaders also announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Artificial Intelligence (AI) to facilitate the transfer of knowledge, investment, and standards to bring mutual benefit to both countries.
- The UK and UAE will form a space sector joint committee to drive bilateral discussions for enhancing our scientific and commercial partnerships, to deliver economic prosperity for both nations.
- The UK and UAE have developed stronger and closer industrial ties through collaboration in defence and security, and the growing relationship between the respective industries is built on a spirit of collaboration and partnership. This includes blossoming relationships between key UK Industry and Emirati partners, including Tawazun Economic Council and EDGE Group. The United Kingdom Defence and Security Exports Department, a part of the Department for International Trade and Tawazun Economic Council, cemented this relationship through the signing of a MoU concerning Defence Industrial Collaboration. The two leaders agreed that working together to support these emerging and future partnerships will promote prosperity whilst strengthening business opportunities for both.
- The UK and UAE share an important strategic defence relationship. They

agreed to strengthen this, particularly on capability development and defence industrial collaboration. The leaders welcomed the continuing strong ties between the UK and UAE Armed Forces. The UK looks forward to further collaboration with the UAE Presidential Guard; between our two air forces through UK participation in the Advanced Tactical Leadership Course, with UK jets from the Carrier Strike Group, and increased land exercises in the UAE.

GLOBAL ISSUES

Climate

- With COP26 approaching, the UK and the UAE recognise that ambition on climate change, including delivering on the Paris Agreement, and keeping 1.5 degrees in reach through rapid decarbonisation is a shared priority. The UK and UAE agree that strong decisive climate action and environmental protection can be an engine for economic growth, job creation and sustainable development. Our shared ambition on climate is a central thread of the Partnership of the Future, informing much of our cooperation: mutual and sustainable investment through the Sovereign Investment Partnership (SIP) into our green industries to support decarbonisation; through development partnerships to support climate resilience and adaptation in third countries; and cooperation on energy in the Joint Industrial Collaboration Framework.
- The UK and UAE recognise that addressing these shared challenges is essential for global prosperity and climate resilient growth. The leaders welcomed the signing of a MoU on Climate Change and Environmental Cooperation which will strengthen collaboration on climate action, nature-based solutions and implementing the Paris Agreement. The partnership will focus on sharing best practice for climate neutrality, mainstreaming climate and environment within development co-operation, reducing climate risks, accelerating the low carbon transition nationally and globally, including through promoting the mandate of IRENA, mobilising access to climate finance and promoting the Agriculture Innovation Mission for Climate (AIM for Climate), which will be formally launched at COP26. The participants will work together to deliver on our climate commitments including 1.5 degree ambition, facilitating greater action on adaptation and collaborating on pathways to decarbonised growth. Both leaders looked forward to working together to tackle these issues, including at COP26 in Glasgow later this year.

Foreign Policy, Regional Issues, Security and Defence

- The two countries reiterated their commitment to deepening their strategic partnership on foreign policy, regional, security and defence issues. The two countries announced the launch of the UK-UAE Strategic Dialogue and held discussions in the lead up to its future inauguration.

The Strategic Dialogue will drive forward collaboration in education, culture and climate change, multilateral co-operation and on security issues.

- The Prime Minister congratulated the UAE on its election as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council for 2022-23. The UK and UAE are committed to working together on the Security Council to promote international peace and security and address the security threats that the world faces. This cooperation on the Security Council reflects the UK and UAE's longstanding support for the United Nations and the rules based international system. The two leaders discussed the long-term strategic implications of the global recovery from COVID 19. The leaders also agreed that the UK and UAE would work together towards an open international order that is more resilient to short-term shocks and long-term challenges, through the enhancement of joint efforts across various fields in international organisations.
- On regional issues, the two countries agreed to continue their close cooperation, including on security, development and humanitarian affairs. They emphasised the significance of the Abraham Accords in contributing to the enhancement of regional peace and security and reaffirmed the unwavering and shared commitment of the UK and UAE to continue to work together in that regard. The two countries reaffirmed their commitment to a negotiated two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, based on relevant UN resolutions.
- The two leaders expressed their concerns regarding developments in Afghanistan, and affirmed their commitment to preserving regional stability and preventing the resurgence of terrorism. They also emphasised the need for the protection of the rights of Afghan women and girls and emphasised the importance that their rights are preserved. The two leaders committed to work together to prevent a humanitarian disaster in Afghanistan and to support refugees.
- Both leaders agreed on increased cooperation to ensure the safety and security of maritime commerce, trade and energy routes.

Health

- As the world continues to face severe new waves of COVID-19 infections and the risk of new variants of concern, both leaders acknowledged the difficult circumstances caused by the pandemic globally. They offered their deepest condolences for the loss of lives and expressed deepest sympathy with the families of the victims. Both leaders emphasised that global cooperation and solidarity are key to fighting the pandemic and achieving sustainable and inclusive recovery. The leaders welcomed the high level of vaccinations in the UK and UAE, and underlined their commitment to share data and exchange experience, including on genome

sequencing. They agreed on the importance of supporting efforts to increase global vaccine supply, especially for multilateral vaccine initiatives like COVAX. They acknowledged the health impacts of climate change and pledged to use COP26 as a platform to demonstrate ambition to tackle them. They noted the importance of a strengthened WHO and its leading and coordinating role in the global health system.

Development

- COVID-19, the effects of climate change, and ongoing conflicts have exacerbated the development and humanitarian challenges faced by the world. To address these challenges, the leaders agreed to expand development and humanitarian cooperation between the UK and UAE through the establishment of a Framework for Development Cooperation. The Framework will facilitate technical knowledge exchange and identify areas for cooperation on shared thematic and geographic priorities, such as climate change, education, women's empowerment, and development in the Horn of Africa. With COVID-19 reversing years of progress against the Sustainable Development Goals, it will help to ensure that development and humanitarian programming can adapt and mitigate against major shocks.
- The UK and the UAE will build on our partnership on ensuring 12 years of quality education for all girls. The leaders affirmed the importance of using both diplomatic and development levers to support global implementation of the landmark joint UN Human Rights Council resolution on girls' education, which was passed in the summer. The leaders also reiterated their support for the Global Partnership for Education and welcomed the pledges that were made by the UK and UAE at the Global Education Summit in London in July. The UK looks forward to the ReWired Summit at Dubai Expo as another key milestone on the girls' education agenda.
- The UK and UAE have agreed an ambitious plan for cooperation in regions of mutual interest, including the Horn of Africa. The new Framework will bring together our diplomatic and development levers effectively to promote shared security and stability priorities, and to support countries in meeting the Sustainable Development Goals. A joint Ministerial Dialogue on Africa will be a key feature of this, and will help maximize the impact of our shared development and humanitarian objectives in Africa and beyond. The leaders also underlined the importance of respect for human rights in all initiatives.

Culture and Education

- The UK and UAE have strong cultural ties and people-to-people links, and both leaders agreed to increase co-operation on areas such as cultural heritage protection, development of creative and cultural industries and

exchange of best practice and expertise. The leaders announced the signing of a MoU on the Cultural Sector, this will further strengthen relations through cultural co-operation. We will work together to facilitate the implementation of international agreements such as those signed with UNESCO. A strategy board has been established to implement this work, and in commemoration of the UAE's Golden Jubilee shared cultural activities will celebrate 50 years of friendship.

- The leaders acknowledged the importance of education and share an ambition to strengthen education ties between their countries. Recognising the importance of building capacity and upskilling human capital in today's changing world, the two leaders committed to identify further opportunities to collaborate in technical and vocational training, which will contribute to the knowledge economy of both countries. Government leaders also announced the "Education for the Future initiative", a series of thought leadership seminars delivered by UK and UAE experts to address challenges and opportunities in education across a range of themes, that will be conducted in 2021 and beyond. In addition, the leaders welcomed the convening of the first event between the two countries on the value of IT/AI skills and competences in girls' education.
- The Prime Minister congratulated His Highness on the UAE's Golden Jubilee celebration marking 50 years of the Union, and expressed anticipation of the active participation of the UK in Expo 2020 in Dubai, which will not only commemorate the historic cultural and trade ties between the two nations, but also positively contribute to the spirit of global dialogue, innovation, peace and prosperity.

Illicit Finance

- Both countries have launched a UK-UAE Partnership to Tackle Illicit Financial Flows. Both leaders agreed that in a global economy where money flows easily across borders, it is more important than ever that international partners work together to tackle dirty money. As two major financial centres, the leaders agreed that the UK and UAE share a common interest in and responsibility for tackling the threat of illicit finance and the financing of terrorism.
- The first UK-UAE Partnership meeting to tackle illicit financial flows will be held in London on 17 September 2021. The co-chairs will discuss the aims of the Partnership, and the development of a joint action plan to mitigate and address shared illicit finance risks, threats, and vulnerabilities. The co-chairs will agree upon the need for the Partnership to deliver tangible operational progress against money laundering, including developing shared approaches and joint interventions. Three work streams will oversee this work: Supervision and Risk Based Approach; Countering the Financing of Terrorism; and

Countering the Most Harmful Money Laundering of Mutual Concern. The meeting will include the signing of the Framework for the Partnership to Tackle Illicit Financial Flows.

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